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Movies

Great Big Sea's Doyle gets Merry

pg 18

Celebrity Buzz

Kristen reacts to all those vibes

pg 29

Henrik Sedin finalist for Ted Lindsay Award

NHL PLAYERS Vancouver Canucks centre Henrik Sedin is a finalist for the Ted Lindsay Award given to the most outstanding player as voted on by members of the NHL Players' Association.

"I never thought I would be in discussion of any awards," Sedin said Thursday. "To get it from the players, it means a lot for sure."

The two other finalists are Pittsburgh Penguins superstar Sidney Crosby and Washington Capitals sniper Alex Ovechkin. The same three are also nominated for the Hart Trophy as league MVP.

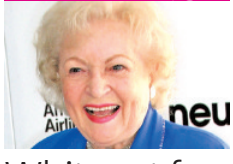
The winner will be announced at the NHL awards ceremony in Las Vegas on June 23.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

Henrik Sedin

Entertainment pg 25



White set for SNL Saturday

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JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Tracie McTavish, president of Rennie Marketing Systems, in front of the Arthur Erickson-designed building at Millennium Water. The remaining 452 market condos in Vancouver's Olympic athletes village go on sale May 15.

In market for a condo?

Remaining Olympic Village suites go on sale mid-May

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Despite Vancouver's hot real estate market, Condo King Bob Rennie expects it will take two years to sell off the remaining suites in the Olympic athletes village.

Beginning May 15, Rennie Marketing Systems will begin selling the remaining 452 condos (of 737 market sale units) at Millennium Water — a $1-billion city-financed green neighbourhood on the edge of False Creek.

It's also the place Sidney Crosby slept the night he scored Canada's golden goal in the men's hockey finals.

"We've just been through an amazing branding campaign to the world," Rennie said, "handing out our business card and explaining what a wonderful place this is to live."

Nobody, he said, could measure how much the Olympic exposure will help to sell the village, "but it definitely doesn't hurt."

Prices for the condos, including those in one of the last buildings designed by famed architect Arthur Erickson, will be released May 15 following a ceremony with Olympic athletes and VANOC CEO John Furlong.

The main selling points, Rennie said, are the location, the waterfront views of False Creek and the downtown peninsula, and bragging rights as North America's greenest neighbourhood.

The Olympic Village, which has 1,108 affordable and market housing units, was originally estimated to cost $750 million, but overruns inflated the cost to $1 billion.

Millennium Water was originally sold, as a presale, in 2007. In those first days, people lined up overnight on the sidewalk for a chance to buy.

A total of 263 units sold before the economy tanked and Vancouver's housing market shrivelled up. Rennie and the city decided to stop sales at the end of 2008 and to wait until the market rebounded.

"There wasn't a market," Rennie said. "It didn't matter that you stocked your shelves with peanut butter. Nobody was buying peanut butter. We just stopped, knowing that the market would come back ... nobody panicked."

Intangibles

A few other selling points, if the Olympic Village was marketed by Metro:

- Speculation over Olympic tenants is a great icebreaker
- Occasional balcony whale watching

Grey whale returns, likely following herring: Expert

VISITOR The grey whale that entertained Vancouver residents by travelling down False Creek is also believed to have captivated crowds in Squamish last week, says a spokesman for the Fisheries Department.

"We think it's the same one because the whale in Squamish disappeared at the same time," said Paul Cottrell, the department's marine mammal co-ordinator.

He said Thursday that the whale seems to have arrived in Vancouver to feast on herring spawn.

Squamish also had a recent herring spawn, and Cottrell said it seems the whale may have made a food stop in Vancouver before heading north to its summer feeding grounds.

The grey whale spent several hours in False Creek on Wednesday and returned Thursday morning before being spotted heading off North Vancouver's coast.

The B.C. coast is in the middle of the migration route for thousands of Eastern North Pacific grey whales.

They make a 20,000-kilometre round trip between their breeding grounds off Mexico's Baja Peninsula and their feeding grounds in the Bering Sea.

According to whale experts, a few hundred of the greys have taken up residence off the west coast of Vancouver Island over the last few years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Local

Road closures ahead for Sun Run

Plan ahead before deciding to drive in or out of downtown Vancouver this Sunday morning. The annual Sun Run, which is in its 26th year, will see various road closures. Some buses will also be rerouted to accommodate runners of the second-largest 10-kilometre run in the world. For street closures and transit details go to vancouver.ca and translink.ca. METRO VANCOUVER

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Vancouver ranked top sports city on continent

LIST Vancouver welcomed the world for the Olympics, and that's earned it the title of top sports city in North America.

It placed sixth globally in the annual listing by SportBusiness Group, behind Melbourne, Singapore, London, Berlin and Sydney.

Twenty-five cities made the initial cut based on their history of hosting sports events, and then were interviewed and ranked.

Criteria included the number of annual sports events held, major events held or won between 2006 and 2014, sports venues, transportation, legacy, and public sports interest.

VANOC head John Furlong says the whole country can take pride in the award, because during the 2010 Games "every Canadian was a Vancouver native in their hearts."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Bryn Davidson, left, and Matt Turner of Lanefab have designed and built Vancouver's first laneway housing. An open house will be held this weekend.

Laneway debut

First house of its kind in city ready to be viewed

A glimpse of Vancouver's future will be on display this weekend as the first of a new generation of laneway houses is completed.

The 710-square-foot, two-storey suite is located in the lane at McGill and Slocan streets in East Vancouver.

"It's been a bit of a challenge," said designer Bryn Davidson of Lanefab. "It's been a lot of learning ... Every step of the way people have been working to see how these are going to work."

Davidson's design features a downstairs bedroom, bathroom and laundry area. The living space and kitchen are upstairs with views of the North Shore mountains. It has triple-glazed windows, energy metres and clever storage areas.

The units cost between $190,000 and $230,000 to build depending on the size of the lot and can be rented for an estimated $1,500 to $2,000 per month.

In July, Vancouver became the first city in North America to implement laneway housing on a grand scale. The small backyard suites are now allowed on 94 per cent, or roughly 60,000, of the city's single-family lots.

This non-strata laneway housing — 65 permits have been issued so far — is envisioned as a source of rental units or a place for retired couples to move into while their children's families take over the main house.

In-fill housing in the city has traditionally been built on larger multi-family zoned lots. They are typically larger dwellings and can be strata units.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

See for yourself

- Lanefab is holding an open (laneway) house Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

Taxi companies join to form association

INDUSTRY Vancouver's taxi companies have banded together to establish an association of taxi owners, giving the local industry a united voice as it struggles to stay viable in a city full of bike lanes and public transit.

Black Top & Checker Cabs, Vancouver Taxi and MacLure's Cabs have created the Association of Pacific Taxi Owners, and Yellow Cab may sign on soon, said Amrik Hamil, the president of Black Top & Checker Cabs.

He said the industry took a major blow when the Canada Line opened, and with a projected 30 per cent drop in cruise ship visitors and out-of-area companies "poaching" customers, cabbies are worried about making a living.

"With so many pressing concerns, it was essential for the companies to look at the bigger picture and come together for the sake of the long-term sustainability of the industry," Hamil said.

"We felt it was important to (have) one voice and to have general consensus on issues," he said. "The competition is ... immaterial. At the end of the day, our customers have to be looked after and we're all in it together."

The association will provide regular communication with stakeholders, the media and government officials through a monthly newsletter.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Council OK's expansion of bike lanes, cycling plan

COMMUTE Vancouver cranked its bicycle plans into high gear Thursday as council unanimously approved the expansion of the city's bike lane network and work on a new 10-year cycling plan.

"It's a historic decision in terms of stepping up investment in cycling," said Coun. Geoff Meggs, who estimated that the decision includes about $12 million in new biking infrastructure.

It will bring the city's bike lane network to 524 kilometres by 2012, up from about 400 kilometres in 2008.

It will also mean segregated bike lanes through downtown, new cross-town bike routes and strengthening of existing bike lanes.

The best news, according to Meggs, is $1.25 million that will be allocated to developing a new 10-year cycling master plan. City staff will consult with average cyclists and people who have been hesitant to get on their bikes to address their safety concerns.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A man rides a bicycle in downtown Vancouver May 4.

News in brief

DEATH A man was killed on the Knight Street Bridge at around 1:30 a.m. on Thursday after losing control of his car and hitting the centre median, snarling traffic well into the morning. A passenger was taken to hospital. Police say speed and alcohol are likely factors in the crash.

METH LAB RCMP have busted a clandestine meth lab in the bedroom of a Burnaby apartment. The lab had the ability and equipment to produce illegal chemical drugs but there was no evidence to suggest any had been produced. One man was arrested and subsequently released.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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519 West Broadway

SKYNET
Arbutus Village
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6338 Fraser Street
2430 Commercial Drive

WIRELESS WORLD
6596 Victoria Drive

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2959 West Broadway

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CELLULAR BABY
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SKYNET
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Orchard Mall

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SKYNET
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B.C. Ferries slashes prices

Discounted midweek fares will be offered by B.C. Ferries starting May 25 until July 29. The CoastSaver fares, $39.95 for a passenger vehicle and driver, cover the three major routes connecting the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Passenger-only fares are $9.95 for that period. METRO VANCOUVER

Man busted on child porn rap released

CHARGES A 51-year-old Vancouver man has been arrested and charged with possessing and distributing child pornography following a two-week long investigation.

Warren Robert Allen was allegedly found with "a substantial amount" of child pornography on his computer, said Const. Lindsey Houghton, adding that he's been released on a promise to appear.

Sgt. Tony Cavezza said there's no evidence to suggest the children are local and police don't feel anybody is at risk by Allen's release. Houghton said that looking at thousands of "upsetting photographs" can take its toll on investigators, who are encouraged only by the knowledge that it's a necessary step in apprehending suspects.

"It's like trading cards. They just want more and more."
Det. Kate Caprarie

According to Det. Kate Caprarie, calls to police about suspected child porn cases are becoming more frequent because the Internet makes it easy for culprits to download and share images.

"They ... collect volumes of it," Caprarie said. "It's like trading cards. They just want more and more."

"The training required is quite intense to track them on the Internet," she said.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

CRIME Surrey RCMP are investigating a drive-by shooting that happened around midnight on Thursday. No one was injured and no arrests have been made.

RABBITS The University of Victoria says it plans to start culling some of the 1,500 feral rabbits that have been digging burrows throughout campus, CBC News Online reports. Previous attempts to trap and sterilize the animals proved to be too expensive.

DRUGS RCMP are expressing frustration after legal delays resulted in two cocaine cases being tossed out of court in Cranbrook in the last two weeks. The lack of a judge in Cranbrook until one was appointed this week is being blamed for the backlog of court cases.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Afro-American art on display

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

Some of the most important paintings in the world of contemporary African-American art are on display at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Kerry James Marshall has drawn from his experience growing up in Alabama during the civil rights movement to create a body of work that celebrates and analyzes the black experience in America.

He does this, said curator Kathleen Bartels, while also speaking to the visibility and invisibility of "blackness" in western art.

"As a young artist, I didn't see pictures of black people (in museums), and for me that was a problem that had to be resolved," said Marshall.

Included in his 19 pieces at the VAG are a series of paintings depicting the irony of America's failed public housing projects, which were meant to be tidy urban spaces but instead became slums.

The exhibit will be on display at the VAG from Saturday until Jan. 3, 2011.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

American artist Kerry James Marshall gives a tour of his work at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Province spent more than $900K on tickets

OLYMPICS The B.C. government has released its report on hosting the 2010 Winter Games and says the province spent more than $970,000 on Olympic and Paralympic tickets.

The report says the province used more than 4,600 tickets in all. Of those seats, more than 3,700 were paid for by the government, while just over 900 were provided free of charge by the Vancouver Olympic organizing committee.

The report released by the Economic Development Ministry says 143 tickets were used by ministers and MLAs as part of the province's hosting responsibilities. More than half were given to dignitaries and business leaders; the remainder were distributed to the public through contests and various community groups. The province estimates the total cost of hosting the Games, including the price of tickets, at just under $2.7 million.

Ian Black, minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development, said the money was well spent and will pay off in years to come.

Premier Gordon Campbell, Finance Minister Colin Hansen, Minister of State Mary McNeil, and Lt.-Gov. Steven Point were given "honoured guest" accreditation by VANOC that allowed them to sit in the Olympic family section of venues without tickets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Highest spending B.C. MLAs

- Intergovernmental Relations Minister Naomi Yamamoto went to 11 events, including the women's gold medal hockey game, at a cost of $3,648.
- Minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development Ian Black attended nine events worth $3,496.
- Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Shirley Bond attended only three events, but her opening ceremonies ticket was valued at $2,640. The total cost of her tickets: $3,188.

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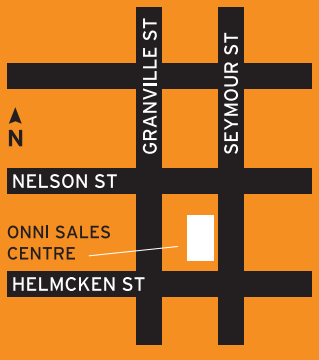

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Ground breaks on visitor centre
A groundbreaking ceremony for a world-class visitor centre is scheduled for Friday morning at VanDusen Botanical Gardens. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Honorary Canucks

Newly minted Vancouverites learn to love hockey

Australian transplant Amy Jones says she was never much of a sports fan when she lived Down Under, but since moving to Vancouver has unexpectedly found a new love in her adopted country's national sport.

Australian Amy Jones, second from left, and Brit Dave Shaw, far right, became Canucks fans after moving to Vancouver.

"My friends back home laugh at my dedication to hockey," said Jones, 26. "Not being a sports fan in general, it took a lot of explaining for me to fully understand the rules, but now I know the game pretty well and consider myself a fan."

Jones is one of many non-Canadians who have converted into hockey fans by virtue of living in Canucks-crazed Vancouver.

"It's unavoidable," she said. "If you want to see your Canadian friends during hockey season then you must learn to love hockey."

She has even adopted her friends' superstitions.

"If a game starts well and turns bad, we make everyone return to their original positions from when the game started."

British transplant Dave Shaw, 27, spent a year watching hockey before he began to enjoy it, but now he's the proud owner of a Canucks jersey.

"I needed a sport to replace soccer, which is on too early to watch regularly," Shaw said. "After pestering (everyone) about (the rules), I began to get it and now enjoy it properly."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

Mayors have pizza, salmon riding on NHL series

WAGER The Canucks and the Blackhawks have sparked a food fight between Vancouver and Chicago, again.

For the second year in a row Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson and Chicago Mayor Richard Daley have placed bets on their team winning the playoff series.

Daley has wagered items that represent his city such as pizza, candy and popcorn. Robertson put on the line a food basket as multicultural as Vancouver, with items like Saag and Paneer and Punjabi Daal from Vij's Rangoli, baklava from Kalamata Greek Taverna and B.C. wild smoked salmon. LAURA FORTEY/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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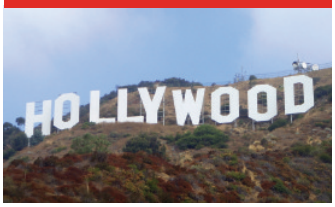

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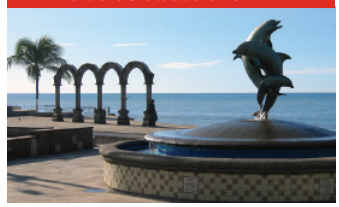

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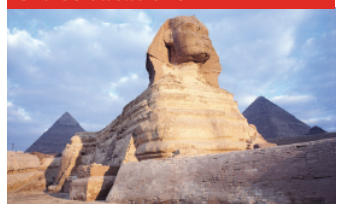

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Richmond whale watching to start this week

Whale watching season begins in Richmond this week and runs until the end of the salmon migration in October. Both whale watching companies based out of the Historic Fishing Village of Steveston have a higher than 90 per cent success rate sighting orcas. METRO VANCOUVER

Local filmmaker set to screen in Cannes

LAURA FORTEY
for Metro Vancouver

A Vancouver filmmaker — who currently works as a bartender — is screening her 10-minute movie at the Short Film Corner during the Festival de Cannes in France.

Danielle Cousineau will be leaving North America for the first time to be a part of the 10-day long event that starts on May 12. The Vancouver Film School graduate wrote and directed the short film using local talent she found on Craigslist as her cast and crew.

"They were all incredibly talented ... I would work with any of them in a heartbeat again."

Cousineau became interested in art as a child because a heart condition kept her away from sports.

Her film, Tell Me, tells the story of a troubled prostitute. Cousineau said she's hoping this festival will be a "sweet step through the door" to more success.

Cousineau said friends and co-workers at G Sports Bar and Grill on Granville Street have helped raised approximately half the funds she needs to afford the $6,000 two-week stint in Europe.

LAURA FORTEY/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Danielle Cousineau poses with the film reel for Tell Me in downtown Vancouver on Thursday. The 10-minute film will be screened in Cannes at the Short Film Corner.

Vancouver first for Fair Trade

STATUS Vancouver became the first major city in Canada to achieve Fair Trade Town status on Thursday.

Cities qualify for fair trade status if stores and restaurants serve fair trade certified products, workplaces and schools use and promote them and a steering group is created for continued commitment, among other requirements. Jeff Geipel, executive director of Fair Trade Vancouver said having fair trade products available at virtually all supermarkets in Metro Vancouver helped. The idea is that the Fair Trade Town status will increase awareness and demand.

Geipel said looking for items such as coffee, tea, sugar and tropical fruits labelled with the fair trade certified mark helps improve the lives of producers in developing countries.

"We want to be the greenest city in the world and a big part of that is ensuring that our goods and services are produced and delivered in a responsible way," said Mayor Gregor Robertson in a release.

Marking World Fair Trade Day on Saturday there will be a celebration including a ceremonial cutting of a Fair Trade cake, and a dance circle outside the Ten Thousand Villages store on Granville Island from 1 to 2 p.m.

LAURA FORTEY/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

OIL SPILL A Burnaby company, Versatch, is supplying another 1,800 metres of booms to help contain the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The same company also sent 1,800 metres last week.

CRIME Police in Langley are on the hunt for a man who drove a stolen minivan into the wall of an auto parts business and made off with cash, credit cards, gas cards and keys from the manager's office.

FOUND An elderly Oregon man reported missing when he failed to return from a solo canoe trip on the Columbia River has been found alive and well near Revelstoke. The 65-year-old was expected to finish his trip on April 24, but fell behind because of strong currents and winds.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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10 **Three Canadian journalists barred from Guantanamo Bay**

Three Canadian journalists covering hearings for Omar Khadr are being barred from Guantanamo Bay. Officials say they breached a ban on identifying a witness. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Dumped again, but Guergis fights back

Helena Guergis is not going down without a fight.

The former junior cabinet minister has written to the Conservative party asking it to reverse a decision to drop her as the Tory candidate in the Ontario riding of Simcoe-Grey.

Guergis said she's appealing the party's decision, and wants the party to give her a chance to clear her name and rejoin the Conservative caucus.

Helena Guergis

Prime Minister Stephen Harper booted her from caucus after a private eye made allegations of tax evasion and the potential existence of compromising photographs. And Harper called in the RCMP.

Guergis said: "I have been charged, convicted, and sentenced without any due process."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harper won't turf MP Shory

POLITICS What kind of allegation or RCMP scrutiny will get a Conservative booted from caucus?

According to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, allegations of a civil or "private" nature don't cross the line, and that's why Alberta MP Devinder Shory is still sitting with his Tory colleagues.

Shory is named in a Calgary lawsuit alleging a $70-million mortgage fraud against the Bank of Montreal.

"This is a civil action." Stephen Harper

"This is a civil action, it's not a criminal matter, it's a private matter," Harper told reporters Thursday.

"Its origin is before he became a member of Parliament and it's before the court, so I'm not going to comment."

But opposition leaders were having trouble seeing the distinction between the Helena Guergis and Shory cases.

"There are some very serious allegations from a very credible third party, and we have to believe the Bank of Montreal is a more credible third party than a private investigator..." said NDP Leader Jack Layton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Survivor **She'll never forget**

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal massacre survivor Nathalie Provost takes a moment to remember following a small commemorative ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on Thursday. In 1989, a rifle-wielding Marc Lépine gunned down 28 people at École Polytechnique, killing 14 women. Provost was shot four times.

Pardons derail checks: Liberal

CHILDREN A directive from Ottawa that has made it nearly impossible for school boards and other groups to do criminal background checks on people who work with children needs to be clarified, says an Ontario Liberal.

Backbencher Liz Sandals said an agency that investigates criminal records on staff and volunteers for educational institutions can no longer access full records of sex offenders who were granted pardons.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

War veteran urges Canadians to remember what soldiers sacrificed.

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Diaper rash prompts investigation

U.S. safety officials are looking into a handful of reports of severe rashes caused by new Swaddlers and Cruisers diapers by Pampers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Markets tumble

Investors fear Greek crisis could spread

World stocks plunged Thursday as fears Greece's debt crisis will spread to other European countries and undermine the global recovery continued to rattle markets.

Investors are questioning whether a $142 billion aid package for Greece will be adequate to keep debt problems from engulfing other European nations with weak government finances.

The death of three people Wednesday in an Athens bank during a 100,000-strong protest against government austerity measures has further shaken confidence in the markets.

In early trading in Europe, the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares was down 0.5 per cent while France's CAC-40 dropped one per cent and Germany's DAX slipped 0.4 per cent. Stock futures pointed to modest losses Thursday on Wall Street.

In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average dived 3.3 per cent to 10,695.69 for its biggest one-day fall in over a year while China's Shanghai benchmark sank 4.1 per cent. Japanese markets were closed Monday through Wednesday for holidays. South Korea's Kospi was off two per cent, Hong Kong's Hang Seng retreated 1.5 per cent, Australia's benchmark lost 2.2 per cent and Indonesia sank 3.3 per cent in a regionwide rout. Benchmarks in Singapore, Taiwan, India, Malaysia and Thailand also slid.

Analysts said some European countries may have to cut government spending to calm jittery markets, which could undermine economic growth and demand for exports.

"On any further deterioration in this situation, emerging markets will be hit via rising risk aversion, weaker trade flows and falling commodity prices," Citigroup said in a report.

A drop in the euro and a rise in the dollar has also battered markets around the world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece passes austerity bill

Greek legislators approved a crucial austerity bill Thursday needed to tap $140 billion in bailout loans from the other 15 eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund — money needed to avoid a debt default. The bill passed with 172 votes in favour and 121 against.

A little knuckle-dragger in us all: Research suggests Neanderthals mated with humans.

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Coalition coming in Britain?

ELECTION British Prime Minister Gordon Brown indicated Friday he might try to form a coalition government, seeking to keep his Labour Party in power following an election in which the opposition Conservatives were projected to win the most seats but not gain a majority in Parliament.

But Conservative leader David Cameron — whose party was projected to snatch over 90 seats from Labour and produce its best showing in 80 years — insisted that voters in Britain's national election Thursday did not want Labour to remain at the helm of the government.

"I believe it is already clear that the Labour government has lost its mandate to govern our country," Cameron said Friday in Witney, west of London.

"Our country wants change. That change is going to require new leadership."

The exit polls reflected deep uncertainty over who will form the next government, prompting the country's top three parties — the Conservatives, Labour and the Liberal Democrats — to immediately began jockeying to form alliances.

KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Based on early results, David Cameron's Conservative party won the most seats in Thursday's election, but not enough to form a majority government, raising the possibility of a coalition government.

Turnout for Thursday's vote appeared to be high but hundreds of people across the country were prevented from voting when polls closed at 10 p.m. The head of Britain's Electoral Commission said legal challenges to some ballot results were likely from those turned away.

An analysis by Britain's main television stations suggested the Conservatives will win 305 of the 650 House of Commons seats, short of the 326 seats needed for a majority.

Labour was seen winning 255 seats and the Liberal Democrats 61, far less than had been expected after their support surged during the campaign.

Political wrangling and a period of uncertainty appear ahead for one of the world's largest economies — a prospect that could unsettle global markets already reeling from the Greek debt crisis.

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Comment

Grey visit adds colour

UrbanCompass

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

A grey whale swims past Granville Island in False Creek Wednesday afternoon.

The deck outside the food fair in the Granville Island Public Market is a popular hangout for the local urban wildlife.

Seagulls, pigeons, crows, squirrels, rats, raccoons and coyotes — all the usual suspects, looking for handouts. And if you're not willing to hand your food over, don't worry, they'll just take it the second your back is turned. These guys are hardened veterans of the concession stands.

But when a grey whale turns up at Granville Island, it's news.

Last week, we were all thrilled when for the first time in 100 years a grey whale was seen in Howe Sound. Even better? The same whale (or its pod-ner) was touring False Creek, taking in Science World and Granville Island, like any other tourist from California.

There are various theories about what drew the whale to the Vancouver area; for example, the herring are spawning, which is like an all-you-can-eat buffet if you're a grey whale. Or maybe it was just late for the Winter Olympics.

It's a sign of the times to be sure, but experts can't agree if it's a good sign or a portent of doom.

The good news spin: Waterways such as Howe Sound, English Bay and False Creek, former industrial toxic waste zones, are now clean enough to support major marine mammals again.

The bad news spin: Whales are starved by the depletion of their food supply so they are forced to go downtown for dinner. A grey that beached recently near Sooke appeared to have starved to death on its way to its feeding grounds in the Bering Sea.

It's not unusual to spot wildlife in Vancouver — just over the North Shore mountains is a hinterland that goes all the way to Alaska — and we're almost jaded by the seals, herons, dolphins, eagles, bears, otters, and the odd cougar with whom we share the environment.

But there's something magic about the big ones — orcas, and now greys — who visit occasionally. They are the A-list celebrities of the animal kingdom, and this grey sighting has drawn hundreds of excited lookie-loos hoping to save on their whale watching budgets.

So, the next time you spot one of these super, natural neighbours, ask yourself how it would feel if you never saw another one. Or another seal stick his head up and watch the people stroll by, or if there were no more herons perched thoughtfully on one foot near the seawall, contemplating the minnows.

It's what makes this a very special place to live, and I hope, one great reason to keep it that way.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Noteworthy

Swiss government to debate merit of army

Switzerland's army should stop preparing for a foreign attack and concentrate on security operations inside the country, according to a leaked government discussion paper published online Thursday.

The proposal, which also includes cutting funds for new weapons systems and reducing the size of the army, was obtained by Swiss weekly Weltwoche and published on its website.

A Defence Ministry spokesman confirmed the document was produced by defence officials for discussion at a regular government meeting Friday, but declined to comment further.

The proposal claims that "the core purpose of the army isn't the ability to conduct a war."

Instead, the paper suggests the army should do more to provide security inside Switzerland — such as during large events like the 2008 European football championship — assist in humanitarian operations abroad and police Swiss airspace.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Worth mentioning

Shoe architect's heels take a step up

A designer known as Romania's "shoe architect" has come out with a new pair of sandals that increase a woman's height by 30 centimetres.

The new shoes are being compared to skyscrapers because of their towering heels. But the price also may have something to do with it.

In a nation, where the average salary is $575 a month, the hand-crafted sandals are selling for up to $1,525.

"Heels have an advantage because (many women) don't have long legs," said Mihai Albu, who's had a 20-year love affair making stilettos. "They reposition the waist," he said in an interview earlier this week in his Bucharest atelier.

High heels have become fashionable, but Albu's are at least twice the height of ones that international designers have been flirting with for several years.

For instance, in Washington last month independent boutiques were strutting footwear that seemed revolutionary, such as apple red patent and black stiletto heels.

But the platforms were only four centimetres and the red heels 11 centimetres.

"This is unusual, but I think we can expect many other fashion houses to be doing this," said Marcellous Jones, editor-in-chief of the Fashion Insider online magazine, by telephone.

VADIM GHIRDA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Romanian designer Mihai Albu displays one of his shoe creations in Bucharest.

"They are impractical, but there are women who are brave enough to wear them. They get attention for the wearer and the designer," Jones said.

Albu, a former architect, blends math, architecture and art in his creations, which are more foot sculpture than regular footwear.

He uses French leather and encrusts it with jewels, feathers, mirrors, and taps into Romanian women's perennial love affair with high heels.

Despite the price, Albu says he has received dozens of orders for his new sandals from Romania's well-heeled.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quote of the Day

"When the living come to salute the dead, our words speak loudest to those whose lives still lay ahead. In this age-old act of remembrance, we gather not to call out a requiem — for those for whom we speak are not here ..."

— PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER, SPEAKING IN BERGEN OP ZOOM, NETHERLANDS, A DAY AFTER HOLLAND CELEBRATED THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS MAY 5, 1945, LIBERATION. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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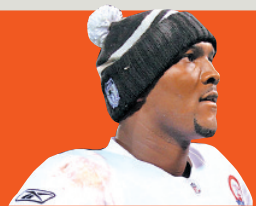
Lawrence Taylor faces rape charge

Pro Football Hall of Famer Lawrence Taylor was charged Thursday with rape for having sex with a 16-year-old runaway forced into prostitution by a man who had beaten her up, police said. Taylor, a 51-year-old former New York Giants star paid the girl $300 US for sex, said Christopher St. Lawrence, supervisor of the town of Ramapo, NY. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Raiders dump Russell

The Oakland Raiders released former No. 1 overall pick JaMarcus Russell, left, on Thursday, ending a three-year tenure marked by his high salary and unproductive play on the field. The decision signifies that owner Al Davis finally lost patience with the immensely talented but unproductive player he drafted first overall in 2007 against the wishes of former coach Lane Kiffin. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Habs even series with Penguins

(Series tied 2-2)

Penguins 2 **Canadiens** 3

VS

Maxim Lapierre and Brian Gionta scored early in the third period Thursday and the Montreal Canadiens held on for a 3-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins to even their Eastern Conference semifinal.

Trailing 2-1 going into the final period, the Canadiens lifted the noise from the Bell Centre crowd of 21,273 to deafening levels as they came back to beat the defending Stanley Cup champions after having been thoroughly outskated and shot through the first 40 minutes.

Tom Pyatt scored in the first period for Montreal while Max Talbot and Chris Kunitz replied for the Penguins.

Jaroslav Halak, who made 33 saves, stopped Pens star Evgeni Malkin on a late breakaway to preserve the win. Marc-Andre Fleury faced 25 shots for the Penguins.

The best-of-seven series is tied 2-2 with Game 5 set for Saturday night in Pittsburgh.

The Canadiens got an early gift as Pyatt threw the puck at the net from a tight angle at the left boards and saw it hop through Fleury's pads 2:34 into the game. It was Pyatt's first career playoff goal.

Late in the third period, Penguins captain Sidney Crosby had a glittering chance to tie it but was thwarted at the side of the net during a power play.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Net pain for Canucks

Team needs to find way to counter Hawks' crease crowding

How to deal with massive Chicago Blackhawk forward Dustin Byfuglien might be weighing heavy on the Vancouver Canucks' minds, but he shouldn't be the team's biggest worry.

The Canucks have plenty of other problems that must be fixed before they play the Blackhawks Friday in Game 4 of their NHL Western Conference semifinal (CBC, 6:30 p.m. PST). Vancouver trails 2-1 in the best-of-seven-series and doesn't want to head back to Chicago for Sunday's game needing a victory to avoid elimination.

"Chicago is not a better team than us," goaltender Roberto Luongo said after the Canucks held an optional practice Thursday. "They are just doing a better job in front of the nets.

"We have to make sure we play hard around their goalie, just as hard as they are playing around us. That will even things out."

Byfuglien regained his status as Public Enemy No. 1 in Vancouver by scoring three goals and crashing around Luongo's crease like a buffalo in Chicago's 5-2 win Wednesday. While Byfuglien may have put a face on the Canucks' problems, he's not the only reason Chicago has regained home-ice advantage in the series.

"He's got a lot of the talk," said defenceman Shane O'Brien. "Two of his goals, he was standing in the blue (crease). We have to do a better job of not letting him get in the blue."

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicago Blackhawk Dustin Byfuglien, right, scores against Roberto Luongo Wednesday.

The area in front of Luongo has turned into a forest of Blackhawks. The Canuck goaltender has been knocked over like a bowling pin and whacked by sticks.

At the other end of the rink, none of the Canucks have shown the will or spirit to harass Chicago's Antti Niemi.

That's got to change said forward Ryan Kesler.

"We have to take a page out of their books," said the Selke Trophy finalist who has been quiet so far this series. "Just get in front of his face, jam his pads, take his eyes away and bump him.

"That's what they are doing to Lui and that's what we are going to have to do to him."

2-14

Vancouver was 0-4 with the man advantage in Wednesday's loss and a limp 2-14 in three games.

Daniel Sedin said the Hawks aren't afraid to take penalties.

"The only way you can punish them is by scoring on the power play," he said. "It's going to come down to special teams.

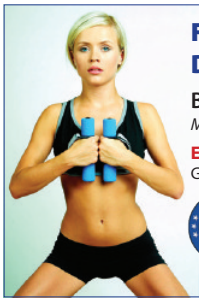
"It's not that hard to see what is wrong. We have a good group here. We are not too worried."

What is a worry for Vancouver is the lack of goals from the Canucks' best players. Chicago's line of Dave Bolland, Andrew Ladd and Kris Versteeg have thrown a blanket on Daniel and Henrik Sedin, the heart of the Vancouver offence.

"They're good players and we've got to get under their skin," said Bolland. "We can't have them getting space or running around.

"We've got to get at them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Injury keeps Mauer on bench
Minnesota's Joe Mauer is making progress, but the deep bruise on his left heel still has him on the bench. Mauer took early batting practice before Thursday's game against Baltimore and said the injury is feeling better, but he's not ready to test his foot with running yet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada's soccer landscape expanding ever so quickly

It'sCalledFootball
Ben Rycroft
metronews.ca/itscalledfootball

This is the time when a columnist is supposed to coyly remind the reader he had it first.

The columnist code of ethics (of which there are none) dictates one should firmly remind the readers who broke the story, walk them through a tale of secret sources meetings and yet maintain a sense of decorum by not bragging.

When the Montreal Impact officially announces its expansion to MLS this morning, I won't be shouting from the rooftops that I originally reported this deal in November. Instead, I'm going to sit back and smile as the Canadian soccer landscape expands.

This is a special time for those of us who grew up playing the game on rough, worn pitches and watching our teams on illegal Internet feeds. We're now witnessing wholesale changes to the Canadian game in the blink of an eye.

It's staggering when you look back at what's happened in just five years. Canada now has three professional soccer franchises. Games are televised on national networks and there is more mainstream print coverage than anybody could have ever imagined.

Toronto FC has become the talk of the city. Hockey-crazed Montreal put 50,000-plus people in Olympic stadium for a soccer game in February. And Vancouver, already established as a North American leader for its deep-rooted soccer system, is on the cusp of becoming world-class when the renovation of B.C. Place and a national training centre are completed next year.

But the game isn't mainstream just yet.

Wednesday night, a few hundred footie fans gathered electronically, squinting and straining to watch an Internet feed of the Nutrilite Voyageurs Cup game between Montreal and Vancouver. Far from professional, this game was brought to you by a webcam and a microphone pointed at a flat screen TV.

It was gritty, it was ghetto, it was Canadian soccer. As the saying goes, the revolution will not be televised.

But make no mistake, by the time Montreal joins MLS in 2012, it will be.

Watch Ben Rycroft on the It's Called Football show three times a week on metronews.ca; ben.rycroft@metronews.ca

Bloody nose can't stop Howard from leading Magic over Hawks

(Magic lead 2-0)
Atlanta 98 Orlando 112
VS

NBA Maybe all the Orlando Magic needed after a slow start was a slap in the face.

Dwight Howard came back from a bloody nose to finish with 29 points and 17 rebounds, and the Magic beat the Atlanta Hawks 112-98 on Thursday night to take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Vince Carter had 24 points with some big shots late and Rashard Lewis finished with 20 points, leading Orlando's 19-2 run in the fourth quarter. The perennially poor free-throw shooting Howard also was 13 for 18 from the line.

"Every time I step up there, just believing it was going in," he said.

The Hawks avoided embarrassment but not another road playoff loss.

After a 43-point loss in the opener, the Hawks led early but head home still searching for a way to stop the Magic's 12-game winning streak. Al Horford led Atlanta with 24 points.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Montreal 3 Pittsburgh 2 (Series tied 2-2)
Detroit 7 San Jose 1 (Sharks lead series 3-1)

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Philadelphia, 4 p.m. (Bruins lead series 3-0)
Chicago at Vancouver, 6:30 p.m. (Hawks lead series 2-1)

NBA

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Orlando 112 Atlanta 98 (Magic lead series 2-0)

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Cleveland at Boston, 4 p.m. (Series tied 1-1)
Phoenix at San Antonio, 6:30 p.m. (Suns lead series 2-0)

BASEBALL

THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS
Toronto 2 Chicago White Sox 0
Baltimore 2 Minnesota 0
Boston 11 L.A. Angels 6
Texas 13 Kansas City 12
Tampa Bay 8 Seattle 0

THURSDAY'S NL RESULTS
Philadelphia 7 St. Louis 2
Pittsburgh 11 Chicago Cubs 1
San Francisco 6 Florida 3
Washington 3 Atlanta 2
Arizona 6 Houston 3
L.A. Dodgers 7 Milwaukee 3

Wings keep Sharks at bay

(Sharks lead 3-1)
San Jose 1 Detroit 7
VS

Johan Franzen doubled his previous playoff scoring total in one game.

Perfect timing for the Detroit Red Wings.

Franzen had a natural hat trick in a 3:26 span of the first period, scored a fourth goal in the third, and set a team playoff record with six points as Detroit stayed alive with a 7-1 rout of the San Jose Sharks on Thursday night in Game 4 of the Western Conference semifinals.

"Hopefully, I can get some confidence and the team can get some confidence," Franzen said. "I've been struggling on the goal-scoring side."

PAUL SANCYA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Detroit's Johan Franzen scores his third goal of the first period against San Jose's Evgeni Nabokov on Thursday night.

Franzen had just two goals in the first 10 playoff games. The burly forward known as "Mule" scored 25 times the previous two postseasons for the two-time defending Western Conference champions.

"Mule is one of those guys — like (Joe) Pavelski — when you get hot, you just shoot the puck," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said.

San Jose will host Game 5 on Saturday night with another chance to advance to hockey's final four for the second time in franchise history and first since 2004.

"Maybe this spanking will wake us up to know we're not out of the woods," Sharks coach Todd McLellan said. "I'm saying it. We have to respond to it."

Franzen was originally credited with scoring the first goal 5:40 in, but the goal was changed to Todd Bertuzzi. That prevented Franzen from tying the NHL playoff record with four goals in a period.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

read metro. read mor

Nintendo profits down 18%

Japanese game-maker Nintendo suffered its first drop in annual profit in six years, hit by a price cut for the Wii home console and sliding global sales. The maker of Super Mario and Pokemon games said Thursday its net profit for the fiscal year ended March 31 fell 18 per cent to 228.6 billion yen ($2.5 billion). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 95.03¢	US $3.929	US $77.11	11,842.43
US 2.09¢	US 6.2¢	US $2.86	32.70

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Usage-based Internet billing gets CRTC's OK

ONLINE The CRTC has approved Bell Canada's request to bill Internet customers, both retail and wholesale, based on how much they download each month.

The plan, known as usage-based billing, will apply to people who buy their internet connection from Bell, or from smaller service providers that rent lines from the company.

In the meantime, Canada's largest telecommunications company, BCE Inc., rang up a $608-million profit in the first quarter, a period when the company showcased itself as the exclusive telecom services provider to the Vancouver Winter Olympics.

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Air Canada losses down

Improving business travel revenues helped Air Canada sharply narrow its losses in the first quarter as the economy continued to slowly recover in the first months of the year.

Canada's largest airline reported Thursday that premium cabin revenues grew by $58 million or 15 per cent from last year, driven by a 10.6 per cent increase in traffic.

The gains accounted for almost 70 per cent of the $84 million increase in system passenger revenues, which rose to nearly $2.1 billion.

Premium cabin yields — the price to fly a passenger per mile — improved in all markets, rising by 3.9 per cent. Lower yields in the economy cabin reduced overall pricing by 2.2 per cent across the system.

Recovering

- Air Canada lost $85 million in the seasonally weak first quarter ended March 31. That compares with a net loss of $400 million a year ago.

The first quarter marked an improvement from last year and sequential growth over the last six months. But it still remained well below pre-recession levels.

In another development, Air Canada says it expects to lose about $20 million in operating profits from flight cancellations after the closure of European airspace for five days in April because of volcanic ash from the volcanic eruption in Iceland.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stronachs letting go at Magna

AUTO Magna International Inc. shareholders will get a chance to end the Stronach family's absolute control over the global auto parts maker.

Frank Stronach and his family have controlled the company through a stock structure that gives the Stronach Trust more votes than all other shareholders. The company said Thursday Stronach Trust has now agreed to let other shareholders vote on eliminating the family's special rights.

The news sent Magna's shares soaring. At late morning, they had added $8.81 or nearly 14 per cent to $73.08 on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Men in tight

Pg 18

It pays to have famous friends: Just ask Great Big Sea's Alan Doyle, who is one of Russell Crowe's Merry Men in real life, and now on the big screen in the action-filled Robin Hood. Crowe's new take on the classic story hits theatre's next week.

Movies Pg 21

Jay Baruchel goes 'socialist' in The Trosky.

Music Pg 26

New Pornographers strive for the 'perfect album.'

Television Pg 24

Living In Your Car takes on the rich and obnoxious.

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At a glance
Iron Man 2 ●●½,
Please Give ●●●½

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Doyle up the ballads and blood

Crowe picked Canadian singer for Merry Men role

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Movie **feature**

Alan Doyle is admittedly one lucky dude. After all, the Newfoundland-born musician's band Great Big Sea has been a Canadian institution ever since the successful release of their 1993 self-titled debut album. But now, Doyle can call himself a movie star as well.

Robin Hood opens next Friday

"I've been holding out for 40 years for the right chance," joked Doyle about his role in Robin Hood alongside Russell Crowe. "I picked a good one, didn't I?"

As it turns out, Doyle was chosen for the role. Having met Crowe in Toronto while the actor was filming Cinderella Man, the duo became fast friends over their love of music. As the tale goes, while Crowe was initially reading the script for Robin Hood, he discovered one of the Merry Men was a balladeer.

"He's done a bunch of movies since I've known him — he's never asked me to do one," said Doyle. "(But) I could see Russell reading the script and thinking 'hey, we need a dude who can play the lute, sing and write ballads on the spot and play Celtic instruments and his name is Allan A'Dayle…' I would've been pissed off if he hadn't thought of me to be honest!"

Newfoundland-born musician Alan Doyle, left, plays one of the Merry Men in Robin Hood.

Doyle isn't just making a passing cameo either. The Newfoundlander underwent weeks of rigorous training with weapons and horses for huge epic battle sequences as one of Hood's fighting Merry Men. Further, he was asked to compose a few songs for the movie.

"(I got) three or four credits in there which is a thrill," said Doyle. "(But) as the years go by, I will exaggerate that."

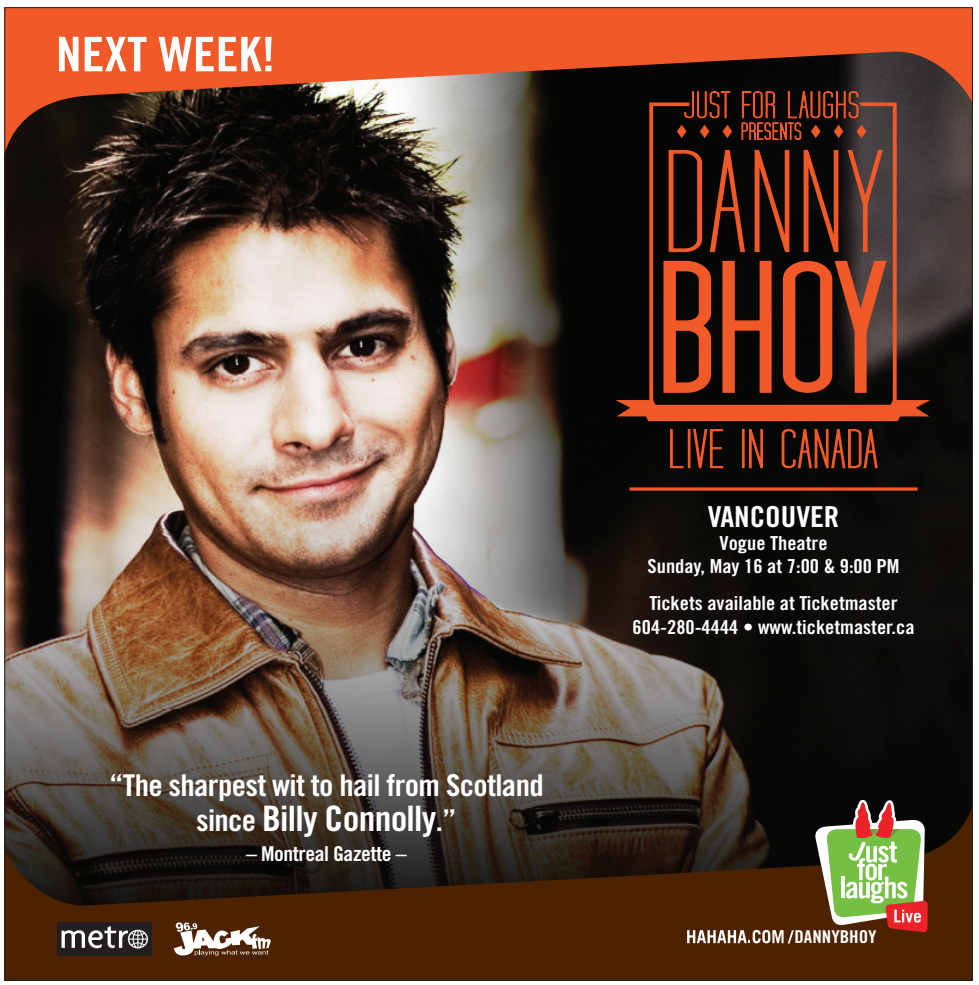
On the web

- For trailers, screen times, photos — and to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies

Doyle won't be able to rest for long. After the film hits theatres, Great Big Sea will prepare to release their next album in July and follow it up with a tour.

But with a potential cinematic franchise looming in Robin Hood, one wonders if the singer doesn't have at least one eye on a career in movies.

"I don't know, I've been pretty lucky with things my whole life," said Doyle humbly before quickly insisting: "I got this one by kind of not looking for it and that would be my tactic for the next one."



NEED SOME WATERCOOLER TALK?
Visit metronews.ca to watch metrotube of the day

Englund's new demon
He might not be Freddy Krueger anymore, but Robert Englund is still picking demonic parts, signing on to indie horror pic Inkubus. The iconic actor is part of an ensemble that includes William Forsythe and Joey Fatone. **EMPIREONLINE.COM**

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Watts tackles 'messed up' character

Naomi Watts stars in Rodrigo Garcia's Mother and Child.

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

Naomi Watts' unsympathetic character in Rodrigo Garcia's Mother and Child would present a problem for an actress who wants to be liked.

But Watts' courageous refusal to worry about her image sets her apart. She routinely tackles tough parts like Elizabeth, an attorney who moves forward through like a shark, destroying everything in her way — she is not a nice person.

Watts says she found Elizabeth interesting from the first read, trusting Garcia's vision. In one scene, she leaves her panties in her neighbour's drawer after seducing her husband.

Watts sees what she did, not as a slap in the face, but a gift.

"It was just — 'No! Like NO, that's not who you are, and that's not who this man is. I know him better and you should know that. You need to know and save yourself!' It was so weird; it shakes you up, the way Rodrigo writes. These characters are not evil, but messed up.

"She shows repellent behaviours like running away from people, sleeping with her neighbour, and I wondered 'how does this not make her a villain?' The closer I looked, I realized she feels so much pain that she has to control everything."

Mother and Child opens next Friday

Elizabeth's pain was rooted in knowledge that she was abandoned at birth; she didn't try to find her mother and erased her true past. Watts says Elizabeth missed out on that primal, basic mother/child bond, the one that is so strong in her own life.

"My relationship with my own mother is so important to me. It's the most meaningful one in my life, particularly as I didn't have another parent. She was my role model, my everything. ... She was twenty years old when she had me, right in her prime and she had to deal with me! No time for her to have her own life. She was just too young. Our relationship is like sisters."

Watts has two children with Liev Schreiber, Alexander Pete, 2, and Samuel Kai, 1.

Motherhood has changed Watts in many ways, including the way she views her career.

"I'll watch my clock because I know I want to get home and put the kids to bed or pick them up from school. And before I was someone who would stay up to three in the morning working my character out."

Watts has two films premiering at Cannes this month — Fair Play, based on the book by Valerie Plame, about a CIA operative whose identify was revealed by a newspaper columnist and You Will Meet a Dark Stranger for Woody Allen. Watts also finished Dream House with Daniel Craig; My Name is Jody Williams, and We Are All the Same.

"I knew this would happen. We shot a year Mother and Child a year ago, but I shot only eight days. Then I shot the proper ten weeks for Jane and did them all fairly back to back.

"Then I had eight months off and now they're all coming out!"

Tarantino heads jury for Venice

FILM FEST The Venice Film Festival says Quentin Tarantino will head the jury that will award the coveted Golden Lion at this year's festival.

The festival called the director "one of the major creative figures in contemporary cinema" in an announcement of his appointment on Thursday. It runs from Sept. 1-10.

The festival cited Tarantino's highly original filmmaking style, work as a character actor, films that have launched and relaunched acting careers and his dedication to young filmmakers in his work as a producer.

Tarantino has directed such films as Inglourious Basterds, Pulp Fiction and Kill Bill.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

HONOUR Organizers of the Stockholm film festival say director Gus Van Sant has been named the winner of this year's visionary award, hailing him as one of modern cinema's greatest American filmmakers. Van Sant is expected to visit Stockholm in November to pick up the award. Previous winners include Wong Kar Wai and Terry Gilliam. Van Sant's films include Good Will Hunting and Milk.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Give actors dig into script

Please **Give**

Director: Nicole Holofcener
Stars: Catherine Keener, Rebecca Hall
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●●½

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Catherin Keener stars in Please Give.

REVIEW Please Give is a film about guilt. It focuses on a middle-aged married couple (Catherine Keener and Oliver Platt) who make their living buying furniture from bereaved relatives.

They also live next to a dying old woman and intend to purchase her apartment to expand their own living space. The always wonderful Keener is the centre of the film and she's overcome by guilt, both as a result of what she does for a living and the fact that she has money when others don't.

Her insistence on giving cash to homeless people to the chagrin of her teenager daughter becomes a running gag.

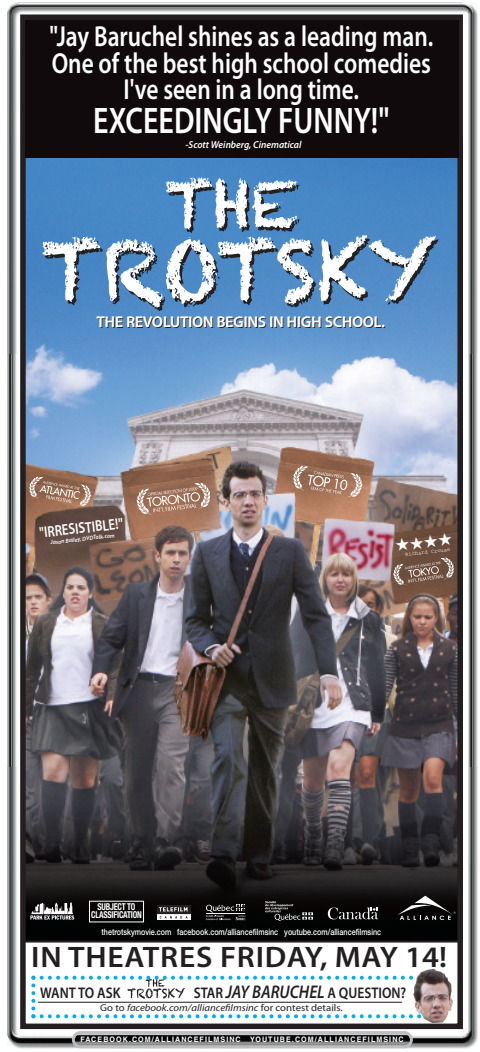
Yes, a gag, because despite what that plot description might suggest, Please Give is a comedy. It's just a heartbreaking one with humour rooted in the sadness of the characters and their identifiably petty problems.

Writer/director Nicole Holofcener never goes for obvious laughs or even pushes for emotional climaxes. Her movies are about poignant and humorous observations about contemporary life rather than plot or spectacle.

She fills Please Give with such scenes and while the final movie might not feel particularly satisfying because there's seemingly no big emotional pay off or clear thesis, that's fine. There are so many oddly touching or hilarious moments and well-written characters that there's really no need for anything else.

Catherine Keener stars in the film and is as excellent as always, mining the pathos of her role without ever losing sight of the comedy.

The same can be said of Oliver Platt, Rebecca Hall, Amanda Peet, and everyone else who appears on screen. The actors all contribute some of their best work because they have a screenplay of uncommon intelligence to work with.



Stewart On The Road

Kristen Stewart will be starring in the screen adaptation of Jack Kerouac's On The Road. The New Moon star has confirmed that she is "very much attached" to play troubled drifter Marylou alongside Garrett Hedland's Dean Moriarty. IMDB.COM

Directors dig own cameos

John Favreau, left, and Alfred Hitchcock are two directors who have made appearances in their own films.

InFocus

Richard Crouse

metronews.ca/infocus

"Alfred Hitchcock honed the art of the cameo to a science, turning up in 41 of his films."

Iron Man 2 director Jon Favreau says the reason he cast himself in the role of Tony Stark's bodyguard Happy Hogan is "me being selfish and me wanting to be an actor in it."

One of his cast mates, however, thinks there might be an alternate reason. Gwyneth Paltrow, who plays Pepper Potts for the second time around in this weekend's Iron Man sequel, wonders if Favreau has a secret crush on her. You see, in the comic book series the film is based on Hogan and Potts become a romantic item.

"He marries this character in the comic book," she says, "so you never know. We'll see! If he wants to make out…"

Whatever the reason, many directors make a regular habit of placing themselves in their movies.

Alfred Hitchcock honed the art of the cameo to a science, turning up in 41 of his films.

Usually his appearances were limited to a quick hit, sometimes just as a silhouette, often as a face in the crowd, but a careful study of he films reveals the clever ways he inserted himself into the story.

The strangest cameo is one that may never have happened. In North by Northwest Hitch can be seen missing a bus during the opening credits but fans claim there is a second cameo later in the film.

Forty-four minutes there is a scene with a woman in a dress speaking to the police on a train which is rumoured to be the director in drag.

Hitchcock was so well known for his sneaky appearances in films he even made one following his death. In Psycho II, made three years after his passing, his famous silhouette can be seen in shadow just outside of Mother's bedroom.

The portly British director had the art of the cameo down to a science but he's not the only one.

The usually reclusive Terrence Malick plays an unexpected visitor at door, credited as Caller at Rich Man's House in his masterpiece Badlands and Oliver Stone can be glimpsed as the officer with a phone at the U.S. base's bunker when it is blown up in Platoon.

One of the most memorable but unrecognizable director cameos comes in Alien. When John Hurt looks into a transparent egg the facehugger was "played" by director Ridley Scott's gloved hands.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrchaos33@hotmail.com.

Common takes lead in Wright

DOROTHY ROBINSON
Metro World News

Hip-hop artist Common stars with Queen Latifah in Just Wright.

INTERVIEW Over the past few years, Common — best-known as a successful hip-hop artist — has been quietly building up his acting resume with small roles in Smoking Aces, Wanted and Terminator Salvation. Next weekend marks his leap into leading man status as Scott McKnight, a professional basketball player who falls a physical therapist (played by Queen Latifah) in Just Wright. He lets us know why he loves being a starter.

Q This is a departure from the hardened characters you've played in your past films. Was it difficult switching over to a romantic lead?

A This is not only my first romantic, leading character — it's my first leading role, period. I thought highly of my experience. I love being able to come in every day to act. A lot of times, I'm in movies and they might call me in and I might not even work that day. So it's fun to come in and be a part of this, like, equivalent to a basketball game. You know — being able to play in the game and be a starter.

Q You're in nearly every scene. Does seeing your face on-screen all the time rattle you?

A To be honest, I'm critiquing every little part. I do that even when I only have two lines (in a film). It's fun to have my friends and family come to a movie and not have to wait two hours before I come on screen.

Q So, serious question: When you talk to Queen Latifah, do you call her Queen Latifah or just Queen?

A I call her Latifah, and I got other names for her too. .

Q Oh? Like what?

A I'm just tripping with you. But yeah, I call her Latifah more than anything. But you know, sometimes you just have to refer to her as a queen. She is a queen but she seems so much like a friend.

Q What's the most, um, common headline you've seen in articles about you that use your name?

A Typically, "uncommon man" or something like that.

Obviously, I hope you use "extraordinary."

Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Canadian actor Jay Baruchel fights to bring "socialism" to his high school in the comedy The Trotsky.

Mr. Revolution

Canadian actor Baruchel gets his Trotsky on

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

Jay Baruchel is Captain Canuck.

Despite having the kind of break-out Hollywood success most actors could only dream of — starring in the critically lauded She's Out of My League, the number one hit How to Train Your Dragon and headlining Disney's upcoming Sorcerer's Apprentice — the patriotic Canadian (he has a maple leaf tattooed over his heart) hasn't taken up digs in Los Angeles or New York. In fact, he still lives in Montreal where his latest movie was shot.

"It was genius," he says of making The Trotsky in his hometown. "If I go away to make movies it means I have to say goodbye to my mom, my cat, my friends, my bed, all that stuff, so to be able to go to my house every night and flip channels with my roommates and pet the cat was crazy."

In the comedy, directed by actor-turned director Jacob Tierney, he plays the budding Bolshevik Leon Bronstein, a 17-year-old who believes he is the reincarnation of revolutionary Leon Trotsky.

"(In high school), I was incredibly impassioned and prone to crying and punching stuff and throwing fits and getting really angry so I had to channel that."
Jay Baruchel

"When I talked to Jacob about this I told him I was scared to play a character 10 years younger than me," he says. "I was trying to leave that behind but then I came to the Ferris conclusion. Ferris Bueller's Day Off is my favorite movie of all time and I realized that Leon kind of is Ferris in regards to the way he affects change in other people's lives and goes to war against his principal."

The Trotsky opens next Friday

Baruchel may have used Ferris Bueller as a muse but to fully round out the character he cobbled together a "bunch of subtle tiles in the mosaic that make up this weird guy."

First he looked back at himself. "In high school you just care about everything so much," he said. "I was incredibly impassioned and prone to crying and punching stuff and throwing fits and getting really angry so I had to channel that."

Then he added in some physical comedy. "I had this overriding idea that because he's such an odd bird there was room for some physical comedy and that's why I walk out of every scene like a cartoon character."

More than anything, however, he says he's thrilled to portray a side of Montreal that rarely gets seen on screen.

"If you watch English movies from the rest of Canada you'd never know that there are Anglos in Montreal," he says. "If you watch French movies from Quebec you'd never know there are Anglos in Montreal. So either way we're forgotten, but we're back! Anglo Montrealers are back everyone! We're coming at ya!"

Movie morsels

Iron Man 2

REVIEW Iron Man 2 opens not with a bang but with a whimper, as Mickey Rourke's Ivan Vanko — later to become villain Whiplash, weeps over his dying father in a cluttered Moscow apartment. It's a big risk for an action tentpole, but one a filmmaker like Jon Favreau can make riding a wave of goodwill after the franchise's critically and commercially successful first chapter two years ago. Unfortunately, Favreau and company spend the next two hours squandering all that good will. The film's primary problem is that it sidelines its main hero and villain, both Stark and Whiplash sequestered in their labs tinkering while supporting characters carry on without them.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro World News

Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY. 7 TO THURS., MAY. 13. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Beavers (STC) A.M. Fri-Thu 11
Gold Fever (STC) Fri-Thu 1-3
Journey to Mecca in the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta (STC) Sat-Sun 5
The Ultimate Wave Tahiti (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2-4

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 7-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:7-9:35 Mon-Thu 7-9:35

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 3:25-5:30-7:30-9:20
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Sun 1-4-7:10 Mon 1-4:10 Tue-Thu 1-4-7:10
Gunless (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-9:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:15-9:50
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 3:20
Oceans (G) Fri 1:40-3:35-5:25-7:25 Sat 1:40-5:25-7:25 Sun-Thu 1:40-3:35-5:25-7:25
The Secret in Their Eyes (14A) Fri-Wed 1:20-3:50-6:50-9:30 Thu 1:20-3:50-9:30

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 6:55-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:35-4:15-6:55-9:35 Tue-Thu 5:25-8:10
Chloe (18A) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:50-7:10 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:25
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri 6:40-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:40-3:55-6:40-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:05
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-8 Mon-Thu 8
Green Zone (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:20-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:15
Gunless (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:05-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:20
Hot Tub Time Machine (18A) Sat-Sun 1:20-4-6:45-9:45 Mon-Wed 5:35-8:25
The Runaways (14A) Fri-Sun 9:25

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

The Last Station (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Last Train Home (STC) Fri 9:30 Sat-Sun 3:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 9:30

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

How to Train Your Dragon (G) DTS Digital Fri 6:45-9:15 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:45-4:30-6:45-9:15 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:15-7:45
Iron Man 2 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 5-8
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) DTS Digital Fri 7:15-9:35 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-7:15-9:35 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:30-8:15

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

Double Happiness (STC) Fri 8:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat-Thu
She's a Boy I Knew (STC) Fri 7

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Avatar 3D (14A) Digital Presentation Fri 4:15-7:30 Digital Presentation Sat-Sun 1-4:15-7:30 Digital Presentation Mon-Thu 4:15-7:30
Mao's Last Dancer (G) A.M. Sun 10

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Exit Through the Gift Shop (STC) Fri 4:30-7:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-4:30-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30-9:30

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

American Psycho (PG) Fri 12
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-6:50-9:30 Mon-Tue 6:50-9:30 Wed 12:30-6:50-9:30 Thu 6:50-9:30
The Machinist (14A) Fri

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:20-6:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 2-6:50-10:30
Carmen (Bizet) Metropolitan Opera - Encore Performance (STC) Mon 6:30
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3-6:40-9:20
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:30-4:50-7:20-10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-10:20-10:40 No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:10-6:30-9:50
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Tue 12:40-4-7:40-10:35 Wed 12:40-4-10:35 Thu 12:40-4-7:40-10:35

Rooney Mara plays Nancy — a teen tormented by Freddy Krueger in her dreams — in the remake of A Nightmare on Elm Street.

A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:50-7:10-10 Mon 1:10-3:50-7:10-10:15 Tue-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:10-10

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:40-7:15-9:45
Exit Through the Gift Shop (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-2:55-4:05-5:10-6:25-7:35-8:45-9:55
Furry Vengeance (G) No Passes Fri-Sat 2:25-4:45-7:05 No Passes Sun 7:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:25-4:45-7:05
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri-Thu 2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Wed 1:30-4-6:30-9 Thu 1:30-4-9
Letters to Juliet (G) No Passes Sun 3
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 1:3:20-5:40-8-10:20
My Dear Enemy (G) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 No Passes Wed 1:20-4:10-9:50 No Passes Thu 1:20-4:10-7-9:50
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:15-5:20-7:30-9:35
Please Give (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:25-2:40-3:50-5:6:10-7:20-8:30-9:40
The Secret in Their Eyes (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:50-4:50-7:50-9:20

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film
vifc.org

An Audience With Rebecca Eaton (STC) Fri 6:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat-Thu

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 6:30-9:25

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat 1:50-4:40-7:15-9:50 Sun 4:40-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50
Gunless (PG) Fri-Thu 9:45
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri 6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri 6:30-7-8-9:30-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:15-12:45-1:15-3:20-3:50-4:30-6:30-7-8-9:30-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-7-8-9:30-10
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 2
The Losers (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Avatar 3D (14A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 12:50-4:30-8 Mon-Thu 8
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri 6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10
Date Night (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 6:30-9 Sat-Sun 12:3-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 6:30-9 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri 7:9:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 7-9:40
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:50

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri 4:10-7:05-9:40 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:05-9:40 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:05
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 4:15-6:55-9:30 Sat 1:15-4:15-6:55-9:30 Sun 1:15-4:15-6:55 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:55
Gunless (PG) Fri 4:20-7:15-9:35 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:15-9:35 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:15
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri 4-7-9:55 No Passes Sat 1-4-7-9:55 No Passes Sun 1-4-7 No Passes Mon-Thu 4-7
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri 4:05-7:10-9:50 Sat 1:05-4:05-7:10-9:50 Sun 1:05-4:05-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 4:25-7:20-9:45 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:20-9:45 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:20

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:25-7:35-10:25
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Wed 12:25-3:35-6:55-9:50 Thu 3:35-6:55-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Carmen (Bizet) Metropolitan Opera - Encore Performance (STC) Mon 6:30
Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 12-3-6:30-9:30
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:35-7:05-9:45
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:40-7:50-10:40
Ekam - Son of Soil (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:25-8:05
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Sat 12:10-2:35-4:55-7:25-9:55 Sun 12:10-7:25-9:55 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:35-4:55-7:25-9:55
Gunless (PG) Fri-Wed 12:50-3:55-6:50-9:40 Thu 3:55-6:50-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 10:15-12:45-1:20-4:05-4:30-7:30-8-10:45-11:30 No Passes Sun 10:15-12:45-1:20-4:30-5-7:30-9-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:45-1:20-4:30-5-7:30-9-10:30 No Passes Fri-Sat 10:15-1:20-4:30-8-11:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:30-10:30 No Passes Fri-Sat 12-3:30-7:10:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:15
Iron Man 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20-12 No Passes Sun 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:10-10:15
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 3:30
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:20-10:35
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:15-9:15-10:05
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:45-6:45

Paul Gross stars as an American outlaw on Canadian soil in the western-themed comedy Gunless.

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 9
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 5-7 Sat-Sun 1-3-5-7 Mon-Thu 5-7
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 4:45-7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:10-2:30-4:45-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:15-9:40

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:20-6:55-9:45
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-7-9:55
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Sat 11:50-2:20-4:45-7:20-9:40 Sun 11:50-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 11:50-2:20-4:45-7:20-9:40
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:20-1:45-4:15-6:50-9:15
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-12:45-3:30-4-6:45-7:15-10:10:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:30-7:45-11
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:25-10:20
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 3:15
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:4:35-7:35-10:15

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 4-7:10 Sat 1-4-7:10 Sun 1-4-7 Mon-Thu 4-7
Date Night (PG) Fri 4:25-7:25-10:25 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:25
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri 4:15-7:15-10:15 Sat 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15
Gunless (PG) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:20 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20
Hot Tub Time Machine (18A) Fri-Sat 10:05 Sun-Thu 7:05
The Last Song (G) Fri 4:05-7:05 Sat 1:05-4:05-7:05 Sun 1:05-4:05 Mon-Thu 4:05
The Losers (PG) Fri 4:10-7:10-10:10 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10
Oceans (G) Fri 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Thu 11:55-3-6:45-9:50
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Tue 12:20-3:25-7:15-10:15 Wed 3:25-7:15-10:15 Thu 12:20-3:25-7:15-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Carmen (Bizet) Metropolitan Opera - Encore Performance (STC) Mon 6:30
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:20-10:30
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:20-7:50-10:35
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri-Thu 10:05
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Sat 11:40-2:15-4:35-7:05-9:40 Sun 11:40-7:05-9:40 Mon-Tue 11:40-2:15-4:35-7:05-9:40 Wed 4:35-7:05-9:40 Thu 11:40-2:15-4:35-7:05-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:15-6:55-10:10
Gunless (PG) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:20-9:45
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:10-4:45-7:30-10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 11-12-2-3:10-5:10-6:20-8:20-9:30-11:30 No Passes Sun 11-12-2-3:10-5:10-6:20-8:20-9:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-2-3:10-5:10-6:20-8:20-9:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4:10-7:20-10:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:50-10
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:05
The Last Song (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:35-7:10
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 3:30
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:40-10:25
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:35-5:05-7:7:50-10:05-10:45
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:15-4:30-6:55-9:15

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 7
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Sat-Sun 1:30
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 9

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:40-4:45-6:55 Mon-Thu 4:45-6:55
The Bounty Hunter (PG) Fri-Thu 5
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:15-4:30-6:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-6:15
Gunless (PG) Fri-Thu 8:05-9:45
Hot Tub Time Machine (18A) Fri-Thu 9
The Losers (PG) Fri-Sun 2:45-7:05-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:10
Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (PG) Sat-Sun 12:30

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-6:50
Badmaash Company (STC) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:30-10:40
Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 9:30
Date Night (PG) Fri-Tue 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:15 Wed 5:10-7:50-10:15 Thu 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Ekam - Son of Soil (PG) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:15-7-10:20
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Sat 12:50-3:20-6:30-9 Sun 12:50-6:30-9 Mon-Tue 12:50-3:20-6:30-9 Wed 3:20-6:30-9 Thu 12:50-3:20-6:30-9 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
House Full (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:20-8
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:45-1:15-4-4:30-7:15-7:45-10:30-10:45 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-3:30-6:45-10
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-6:40-9:40
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 3:20
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:40-10:10

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

The Back-up Plan (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 6:50-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10
Date Night (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-9:40
Furry Vengeance (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:45
Gunless (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:45
House Full (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:45
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:20
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital Presentation Fri-Thu 1-4-7:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-3:30-4:30-6:30-7:30-9:30-10:30
Kick-Ass (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 10:20
Letters to Juliet (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 4:40
The Losers (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:40-4:40-7:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 1:40-7:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:40
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterionheatres.com

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 9:05
Date Night (PG) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 7:10
Oceans (G) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 2-7-9 Mon-Thu 7-9

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criterionheatres.com

Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 7:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 7-7:30-9:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-2-3:30-7-7:30-9:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 7-7:30-9:30-9:45
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 9
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 7:20-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:20-9:25 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:25

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-6:55-9:40
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Tue 12:15-3:35-7:20-10:25 Wed 12:15-7:20-10:25 Thu 12:15-3:35-7:20-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:05-9:55
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:55-7:10-9:50
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri-Thu 10:15
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:25-4:55-7:35
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Sat 1-3:50-6:50-9:30 Sun 1-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 1-3:50-6:50-9:30
Gunless (PG) Fri-Tue 12:05-2:35-5-7:25-10:05 Wed 12:05-5-7:25-10:05 Thu 12:05-2:35-5-7:25-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Hot Tub Time Machine (18A) Fri-Thu 12:45-4:35-7:25-10:20
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:35-2:15-4:50-7:30-10:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-12-2:40-3:10-6-7-9:35-10:30 No Passes Fri-Sun 10:15-1:20-4:30-7:40-11 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:40-11
Iron Man 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20-12:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 12:25-4:10-7:45-10:45
Letters to Juliet (G) Sun 3:30
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:45-7:30-10:10
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 12:40-4-7:15-10 Fri-Thu 11:55-3:30-7:45-10:40
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:20-4:45-7:10-9:45

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley, 604-856-5063

How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri-Sat 9 Sun-Thu 11:15
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sat 11 Sun-Thu 9
Shutter Island (14A) Fri-Sat 1:15

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Twilight surprise

Oprah gave her studio audience a secret screening of The Twilight Saga: Eclipse during a taping of a Twilight special Wednesday featuring Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner and Dakota Fanning. **POPEATER.COM**

Television

Don't speed while Living In Your Car

As a director on Curb Your Enthusiasm, David Steinberg helped nail the fictional Larry David's bull-headed sense of entitlement.

Now, the Winnipeg-born TV veteran is applying his comedy touch to the self-serving struggles of another arrogant character — fallen CEO Steve Unger — in the HBO Canada series, Living In Your Car.

"I guess rich and obnoxious is going to be my signature as a director," a jovial Steinberg admits in a phone interview from his home in Los Angeles.

"Because Larry is that way, certainly, and (Steve) is that way as well. Larry is much more outrageous in Curb than (Steve) is, but not really. It's just that the tone is different."

The half-hour satire, which Steinberg also co-executive produces, stars John Ralston as a high-flying executive who loses everything when he's caught cooking the books. Steve cuts a deal to get out of prison early, but finds that his wife and 15-year-old daughter (played by Ingrid Kavelaars and Mariah Horner) have kicked him out of the house and that none of his former colleagues want anything to do with him.

Homeless and desperate to regain all that he's lost, Steve clings to the last vestige of his former self — his cherished luxury sedan.

PHOTO FROM HBO CANADA

John Ralston plays Steve Unger, an executive who has lost everything, in Living In Your Car, pictured here with actress Mariah Horner as Kate Unger.

The series was written by playwright George F. Walker, Dani Romain and Joseph Kay back in the days of Enron.

"And then of course there was all this new stuff," says Walker, referring to the subsequent fall of corrupt investment advisor Bernie Madoff.

"Which means it could be about anyone. But the thing that they all had in common, the guy we had in mind, was that they were charming. They believed what they were doing was good, they believed in trickle-down economics. Anything that was good for them was good for everyone and that this was just a little blip on their recovery road to success and even greater success. That belief in themselves, and that kind of childlike innocence mixed with a kind of almost devil-may-care foolishness is sort of what we came up with."

Walker, whose previous acclaimed series include HBO Canada's The Line and CBC-TV's This is Wonderland, says Steve's earnest optimism is what makes the disgraced exec worth cheering for, and laughing at, despite his many faults.

Living In Your Car premieres Friday on HBO Canada

Ralston says the show's quick pace helps to heighten the comedy as well. He notes that rapid-fire dialogue zips between characters who clip each others words, finish each other's thoughts.

"The stakes are so high so the delivery is fairly quick," says Ralston, who just finished a TV movie of his other series, the Family Channel show Life With Derek.

"This is a really jam-packed show. (It's) one of the wonderful thing about cable these days and this whole idea of that half-hour format, which is a true 30-minute half hour. I think we're just about three or so scenes short of a one-hour network show."

Walker says that the dense material is a sign of the times.

"Our scripts are like 40 some-odd pages. That's long, that's many more pages (than usual), but when we started doing this people would go, 'Oh, that's so long.' We'd actually go, 'That's old TV. This stuff moves.'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Photos Courtesy of Meysam Motazedi

In brief

CHESNEY Country music singer Kenny Chesney is one of thousands in Nashville sifting through waterlogged memories after floodwaters consumed his home this week. His publicist, Holly Gleason, says it's likely his house will be condemned after water rose past the first floor. He lost items from when he was in high school .

JACKSON The outlook for the sale of a one-of-a-kind Michael Jackson portrait isn't thrilling. The eBay.com auction of a fantastical portrait the King of Pop posed for before his death ended with no bids, according to the auction's organizer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

White set for SNL gig

The night before Mother's Day is going to be the mother of all Saturday Nights: TV icon Betty White will be the guest host of Saturday Night Live, with musical guest Jay-Z and a cast reunion of former female SNL stars Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Maya Rudolph, Molly Shannon and Rachel Dratch.

Betty White

Does that mean that, Jay-Z aside, we're going to see SNL's first all-female ensemble?

"I certainly hope not," White said in a phone interview. "I'll have to go around hitting on every member of the crew."

A typically bawdy comment from the suddenly hot again 88-year-old veteran of Password, Mary Tyler Moore and Golden Girls, whose appearance on SNL was largely motivated by an avid Facebook and Twitter campaign.

Even then she was reluctant, though was eventually persuaded by her agent. "They're just so New York, and I'm so L.A.," she frets. "Honestly, I'm scared to death.

"I haven't a clue what I'm going to be doing. But I have been promised I won't have to do any nudity."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

FRIDAY 5/7/10 primetime

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
news	251	308	3 CBC	(6:30) NHL Hockey Chicago Blackhawks at Vancouver Canucks. (CC)					Van. Hockey	CBC News: The National		The Hour
news	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Medium (N) (CC)		The Bridge (N)		CTV News
news	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Friday Night Lights (CC)		Shark Tank (CC)		Brothers & Sisters (N) (CC)		News
news	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Wife Swap (N) (CC)		America's Next Top Model		Miami Medical (N) (CC)		A News (N)
news	253	359	13 CITY	Murdoch Mysteries		Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	Murdoch Mysteries		Warehouse 13 Bank robbers.		EP Daily
primetime	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Smallville "Hostage" (N)		America's Next Top Model		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
primetime	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Medium (N) (CC)		Miami Medical (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
primetime	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Friday Night Lights (CC)		Dateline NBC (CC)				KING 5 News
primetime	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap (N) (CC)		Primetime: What Would You		20/20 (N) (CC)		News
primetime	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	House "Lockdown" (CC)		Kitchen Nightmares (N) (PA)		News	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Doc Zone (CC)		National
news	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N) (CC)				Larry King Live (CC)		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Canucks TV	The Rookies	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
sports	400	400	30 TSN	(6:30) SportsCentre (CC)		Off-Record	Billiards Mosconi Cup.		30 for 30			SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	iCarly "iQuit iCarly" (CC)		iCarly "iDate a Bad Boy"		Things I Hate	Survive This	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
family	555	545	50 TEL	Batman	Wolverine	Justice	Star Wars	Futurama	King of Hill	Spawn ★★ (1997) John Leguizamo. (CC)		
family	268	354	5 KNO	Asahi Baseball		Poirot "Problem at Sea"		Dalziel and Pascoe (CC)		The Last Waltz ★★★ (1978) Premiere.		
cable variety	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	CMT's Greatest		Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Jim
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal Minds "Derailed"		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
cable variety	521	560	24 TLC	Four Weddings (N) (CC)		Say Yes	Say Yes	Four Weddings (CC)		Say Yes	Say Yes	Weddings
cable variety	616	522	39 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Destination: Infestation (2007) Antonio Sabato Jr. (CC)				Kenny vs.	Pure Pwnage	Misfits (CC)
cable variety	294	650	27 TBS	(6:00) Twister ★★★ (1996)		(:10) Jerry Maguire ★★★ (1996, Romance-Comedy) Tom Cruise, Cuba Gooding Jr. (CC)						(:10) 28 Days
cable variety	603	561	69 FN	Diners, Drive	Diners	Ramsay's Kitchen		Diners	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Diners, Drive
cable variety	-	-	35 AMC	Force 10 From Navarone		AMC News	Hush... Hush, Sweet Charlotte ★★★ (1965, Horror) Bette Davis, Olivia de Havilland.					
cable variety	320	621	30 CEN	Transformers: Revenge		Drag Me to Hell ★★★ (2009) Premiere.		(:40) A Crime ★★★ (2006, Suspense) Harvey Keitel. (CC)				
cable variety	581	566	101 MTV	The Hills	After	1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV Live	Movie Night	After

SATURDAY 5/8/10 primetime

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
news	251	308	3 CBC	22 Minutes	Laughs	The Quality of Life (2008) Nicholas Campbell. (CC)				Rick Mercer	News	Last Samurai
news	250	321	9 CTV	W5 (CC) (DVS)		Flashpoint (CC)		Law & Order "Brazil" (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		CTV News
news	252	336	11 GTV	16:9-Picture	renegade	A Daughter's Conviction (2006) Brooke Nevin. (CC)				Jane Show	G-Spot (CC)	News Final
news	256	389	12 VI	New Canoe	Island Week	Kool Countdown (CC)		The Road to Avonlea		Stargate Atlantis		Bravo!FACT
news	253	359	13 CITY	Cooking	Amazing	Glenn Martin	Out There	Citizen Duane ★ (2006) Douglas Smith. (CC) (DVS)				Crusoe
primetime	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Little Black Book ★★ (2004) Brittany Murphy.				CSI: NY (CC)		CSI: Miami
primetime	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment Tonight (N)		NCIS The death of a Marine.		Criminal Minds "Retaliation"		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
primetime	287	379	16 NBC	Backroads	Inside Edition	Parenthood (CC)		Law & Order "Brazil" (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		KING 5 News
primetime	288	380	21 ABC	NBA Basketball		Fortune	Jeopardy!	Collateral ★★★ (2004) Tom Cruise, Jamie Foxx.				News
primetime	290	382	23 FOX	NASCAR Racing Sprint Cup: Southern 500.			Jim	Grey's Anatomy (CC)		News	Washington	Wanda Sykes
news	502	390	23 NW	Mystery of the MegaVolcano		National	Issue	National	Mansbridge	Mystery of the MegaVolcano		National
news	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Rescued		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Newsroom
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Grid	MMA Conn	The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Poker
sports	400	400	30 TSN	NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at San Jose Sharks. (Live)					SportsCentre	30 for 30		SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Zeke's Pad	Prank Patrol	Funniest Home Videos		That's-Weird	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Zixx Level	Adrenaline
family	555	545	50 TEL	Scooby-Doo! The Mystery Begins (2009) Robbie Amell.				Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Venture Bros.	Moral Orel
family	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic		Heartbeat (CC)		Midsomer Murders "Country Matters" (CC)				Last Waltz
cable variety	575	583	20 CMT	Tracks	Tracks	The Show	Talkin' 'Bout	Gilmore Girls (CC)		Gilmore Girls (CC)		Tuckerville
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "Poison"		CSI: Miami (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
cable variety	521	560	24 TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Toddler-Tiara
cable variety	616	522	39 SHO	ReGenesis (CC)		Lava Storm (2008, Suspense) Valérie Valois. (CC)				Beowulf ★★ (2007) Anthony Hopkins (CC)		
cable variety	294	650	27 TBS	The Holiday	(:35) Father of the Bride ★★★ (1991) Steve Martin. (CC)			(:35) Father of the Bride Part II ★★ (1995) Steve Martin.				
cable variety	603	561	69 FN	Top Chef Masters (CC)		Hell's Kitchen (CC)		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Chopped "Fired Up!" (CC)		Top Chef
cable variety	-	-	35 AMC	Superman II	Superman III ★★ (1983, Science Fiction) Christopher Reeve, Richard Pryor.						Shootout	Superman III
cable variety	320	621	30 CEN	(6:20) The Longshots ★★		G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra ★ (2009) Channing Tatum.				(:05) Changeling ★★★ (2008, Drama) (CC)		
cable variety	581	566	101 MTV	MTV Live	Movie Night	After	1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Movie Night	1 girl 5 gays	After	After

SUNDAY 5/9/10 primetime

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
news	251	308	3 CBC	NHL Hockey		To Be Announced						News
news	250	321	9 CTV	Human Target "Corner Man"		The Amazing Race 16 (CC)		Desperate Housewives (N)		(:01) Flashpoint		CTV News
news	252	336	11 GTV	King of Hill	Cleveland	Simpsons	Family Guy	The Celebrity Apprentice (N) (CC)				News Final
news	256	389	12 VI	TMZ (N) (CC)		Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		Monk (N) (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		New Canoe
news	253	359	13 CITY	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Murdoch Mysteries (N)		Survivorman (CC) (DVS)		Crusoe
primetime	-	-	14 CW	Boston Legal (CC)		CSI: Miami (CC)		CSI: NY "Yahrzeit" (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
primetime	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes (N) (CC)		The Amazing Race 16 (CC)		Jesse Stone: No Remorse (2010) Tom Selleck. Premiere.				KIRO 7 News
primetime	287	379	16 NBC	Dateline NBC (CC)		Minute to Win It (N) (CC)		The Celebrity Apprentice (N) (CC)				KING 5 News
primetime	288	380	21 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives (N)		(:01) Brothers & Sisters (N)		News
primetime	290	382	23 FOX	'Til Death (N)	Simpsons	Simpsons	Cleveland	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	News	Sports	House (CC)
news	502	390	23 NW	Anne Murray: Music of My		Snowdon and Margaret		CBC News: The National		Anne Murray: Music of My		Snowdon
news	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Rescued		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Rescued
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet
sports	400	400	30 TSN	Basketball	SportsCentre (CC)			Motoring	Motorcycle	30 for 30		SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Cheaper by the Dozen 2		Kid vs. Kat	Family Biz	Fries That?	Fries That?	Survive This	Zixx Level	Adrenaline
family	555	545	50 TEL	Spliced	Total Drama	Stoked	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Futurama	Tripping-Rift
family	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic (CC)		The Royal (CC)		Cracker (N) (CC)		The Whistleblowers (CC)		Beautiful
cable variety	575	583	20 CMT	Meet-Wilsons	Meet-Wilsons	Live at the Revival		Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Funniest Home Videos		Hope & Faith
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	Kirstie Alley	Kirstie Alley	Jewels	Jewels	Jewels	Jewels	Jewels	Jewels	Kirstie Alley
cable variety	521	560	24 TLC	Hoarding: Buried Alive (N)		19 Kids and Counting (CC)		Hoarding: Buried Alive		Hoarding: Buried Alive		19 Kids
cable variety	616	522	39 SHO	Pure Pwnage	Trailer Park	Destination: Infestation (2007) Antonio Sabato Jr. (CC)				10,000 B.C. ★ (2008) Steven Strait. (CC)		
cable variety	294	650	27 TBS	(5:00) Titanic ★★★★ (1997, Drama) (CC)		(:40) Titanic ★★★★ (1997, Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet, Billy Zane. (CC)						
cable variety	603	561	69 FN	Dinner: Impossible (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Hell's Kitchen (CC)		Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner
cable variety	-	-	35 AMC	Breaking Bad "I See You"		(:02) Breaking Bad (CC)		(:03) Mad Men "Souvenir"		(:02) Breaking Bad (CC)		The Hunted
cable variety	320	621	30 CEN	(6:00) Traitor ★★★ (2008)		Terminator Salvation ★★ (2009) Christian Bale. (CC)				Fired Up ★ (2009) Nicholas D'Agosto. (CC)		
cable variety	581	566	101 MTV	The Challenge		1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Life, Liz	Life, Liz	The Challenge		1 girl 5 gays

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Top albums on the Billboard 200
1. B.o.B Presents: The Adventures of Bobby Ray, B.o.B; 2. Need You Now, Lady Antebellum; 3. Fever, Bullet For My Valentine; 4. My World 2.0, Justin Bieber; 5. Iron Man 2 Soundtrack, AC/DC. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Music

Power pop revival

The New Pornographers come Together

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

The New Pornographers draw inspiration from The Beach Boys, The Kinks and Big Star.

"There are no more interesting rock and roll bands," writes American novelist Rick Moody in The New Pornographers artist bio. "(The New Pornographers) are also unable, it seems, to resist the challenge to make a perfect album, a form so dead."

If there's any controversial comment to make in a bio, it's probably to say there's nothing good happening in pop music anymore. Carl Newman, The New Pornographers' singer, clarifies the author's statement. "He didn't mean it in an insulting way," says ex-Vancouverite and now New York-based artist. "He was saying it's a noble gesture, trying to work in a format so many people think is dead."

It's true, Pornographers-like power pop — which draws from the Beach Boys, The Kinks and Big Star, among other punchy, harmony-laden rock bands — isn't the rage these days, but it's far from obsolete. Newman knows that, but he says classic pop has gone underground. "If Pet Sounds came out today it would be this weird alternative record," he says.

If anything The New Pornographers' music has kept the genre top of mind for many music fans. The band isn't pushing power pop into the mainstream — "I've had an underground career," he says — but with thousands of records sold worldwide, and veteran acts like Animal Collective and new bands such as Library Voices playing more pop-focused music they've had an influence.

The band actually took a step back from their polished distorted tunes on their last disc, Challengers, in favour of softer, melodic sounds. Their new record, Together, combines that subdued band — which also features Neko Case and Destroyer's Dan Bejar — with their louder selves.

"It exemplifies my contrary nature," says Newman, explaining how a song like Crash Years, a bubbly Case track winds up on the same album as the quiet, lo-fi piano song Valkyrie in the Roller Disco.

Newman admits that the disc is a bit of history lesson into the New Pornographers music. "It does take a lot of different things we've done," he says, adding that the only difference between how he wrote this disc and the previous ones was that Together was based around riffs he had in his mind. "More than the other albums, this was built around some kind of guitar or cello line that runs through a verse."

The band will tour behind Together for a while, but once that's over, in the past, Newman has released solo albums. He says it's unlikely he'll write another AC Newman disc for a while. "I want to do something different. Something that doesn't sound anything like my solo stuff or the New Pornographers," he says. "Or maybe I'm just talking out of my ass."

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Get lost on these music sites

SoundCheck
Alan Cross

metronews.ca/soundcheck

Don't blame me if your productivity falls to zero.

People often ask me which music websites I visit the most. Herewith is a list I simply cannot do without.

AntiMusic: The website is a little kludgy and I hate the "pop-under" ads that come with it, so I subscribe to the free daily email newsletter — delivered before noon ET each day — which is extremely well done (anitmusic.com).

Chartattack: Canada's Chart magazine lives online with an excellent news section that often digs remarkably deep. Especially helpful when it comes to Canadian music news (chartattack.com/new).

Crazed Hits: Billed as "the music industry's leading A&R site," it's used by labels, talent scouts, managers and bleeding edge hipsters to find out who's new, who's hot and who's been signed (crazedhits.com).

The Daily Swarm: An aggregator of music news from newspapers, magazines, websites and blogs. There are other sites that do this, but few have the reach and variety. Just beware that some links may be NSFW (thedailyswarm.com).

Global Music: Another news aggregator but with an emphasis on gathering music news from around the planet. They offer a daily newsletter, too (globalmusic.net).

Heard on TV: Liked that song played at the end of Grey's Anatomy last night but frustrated by not knowing who did it? Go here heardontv.com. Good alternates: TV Show Music (tvshowmusic.com) and Tune Find (tunefind.com)

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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Trump university faces legal action
Officials at Donald Trump's online business program Trump University are facing legal action from a former student, amid accusations the school's courses are bogus. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 George Re-cut

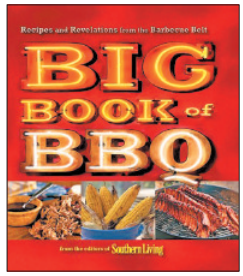
POP CULTURE Julia Louis-Dreyfus may have gotten a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame — typo and all — but it's Jason Alexander's character, George Costanza, who is getting the attention these days thanks to this You Tube hit. The trailer rearranges the neurotic Seinfeld character's scenes into a dramatic movie trailer. youtube.com/watch?v=_Crw85HvIFs

2 Jack Daniels

DRINKS No more having to mix your own JD and cola; the granddaddy of Tennessee whiskey has created a line of ready-to-drink cocktails — Jack & Cola, Jack & Lemonade, and Jack & Iced Tea.

3 Big Book of BBQ

FOOD With most of the country finally in the grip of spring, the smell of BBQ-ing is again wafting its way through Canadian neighbourhoods — making it the perfect time to pick up this collection from the editors of Southern Living. Not only does it contain recipes, but also a list of the best 'Q locations in the U.S.

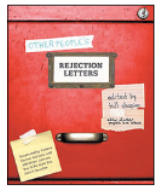


4 Machete

MOVIES In time for Cinco De Mayo, filmmaker Robert Rodriguez extended his fake trailer which appeared as part of his 2007 Grindhouse collaboration with Quentin Tarantino. The trailer stars an impressive list, including Cheech Marin, Con Johnson, Jessica Alba, Steven Segal and Robert De Niro. youtube.com/watch?v=MKhChMHhBN8

5 Other People's Rejection Letters

BOOK Those with a voyeuristic bent will love this look at the letters people have received ending their relationships, having job offers turned down, and even killing their careers.



6 Next Star

TELEVISION Think your kid has what it takes — or maybe you've just dreamed of being a stage parent? YTV is on the search for Canada's next singing sensation. Adamo Ruggiero of Degrassi: The Next Generation is once again hosting the talent search. Visit at YTV.com for more information on the audition process, rules and procedures.

7 Virtual New York City

INTERNET Can't make it to the Big Apple anytime soon? Check out PixelCase's aerial 360-degree tours of Manhattan, where you can explore 6th Avenue, Times Square and other famous landmarks from above. pixelcase.com.au/vr/2009/newyork/

Mix of Six

Dangerous Corner

When: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Where: The Vancouver Playhouse Theatre

At a dinner party, a guest makes a chance remark that ignites a series of devastating revelations leading to a tangle of infidelities, dark secrets and possibly murder. vancouverplayhouse.com.

The Eagles

When: Sunday to Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Where: GM Place

Legendary '70s rockers (Hotel California) his The Garage as part of their extended The Long Road out of Eden Tour. They also perform at Pacific Coliseum the following weekend. Tix: $59.50-$179.50, livenation.com.

Becky's New Car

When: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Where: Granville Island Stage.

Becky is married. Check. With one son, in college. Check, check. Living a perfectly ordinary life. Check. But she wants more. When an unexpected offer for just that—from a dashing millionaire, no less—falls into her lap, Becky embarks on a comic and poignant joyride that may change everything forever. Info: artsclub.com.

Brazilian Nights

When: Sunday, 7 p.m.
Where: J Lounge (Bute and Davie)

The party starts with a samba lesson followed by a show presented by the Queen of Samba and dancers at 8 p.m. before DJ Kabo takes over, spinning world fusion dance.

Delhi 2 Dublin

When: Friday, 8 p.m.
Where: Commodore Ballroom

World-music group formed for a performance at the Vancouver Celtic Festival four years ago combines Bhangra and Celtic music. With guests Beats Without Borders. Tix: $19.50, livenation.com.

Dan Mangan

When: Saturday, 8 p.m.
Where: Vogue Theatre

Local singer-songwriter and named Artist Of The Year at XM Satellite's Verge Music Awards performs hits from Nice, Nice, Very Nice in Canada, which reached No. 1 on iTunes Canada when it came out last year. Info: voguetheatre.com.

Brown reports update to courts

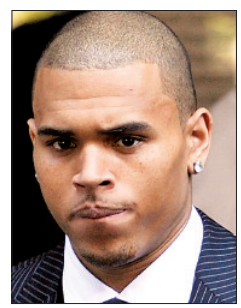
Chris Brown's lawyer says the R&B singer has completed nearly 300 hours of community service since being sentenced for beating Rihanna.

Brown appeared in a Los Angeles courtroom Thursday morning to offer a judge an update on his community service and domestic violence counselling. Lawyer Mark Geragos says Brown is expected to complete his counselling in October.

He's completed roughly 20 per cent of the community labour work he's required to perform.

Brown was sentenced last year to five years of probation and six months of community labour for the February 2009 attack on his ex-girlfriend.

The 21-year-old singer is due back in court on Aug. 26 for another update, and a judge has requested a formal probation report on his progress. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


Singer Chris Brown.

Entertainment in brief

LEGAL A federal appeals court panel has rejected a bid by the late Anna Nicole Smith's lawyers to reconsider its ruling that gave her none of the fortune from her late billionaire husband. A 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals three-judge panel ruled Wednesday it would not rehear the case. It also denied a request for a hearing before all members of the San Francisco-based court.

The appellate court ruled in March that a Houston jury was correct when it said J. Howard Marshall was mentally fit and under no undue pressure when he wrote a will leaving nearly all of his $1.6 billion estate to his son, E. Pierce Marshall. Lawyers for Smith's estate have said they would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Diaries gives SATC fans a young Carrie

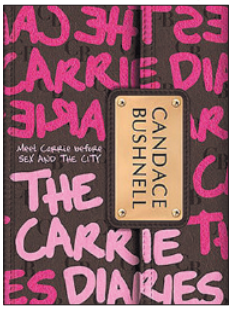
HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Toronto

Sex and the City 2 isn't hitting theatres until the end of the month, but for Carrie Bradshaw fans, the release of The Carrie Diaries — author Candace Bushnell's teen prequel to her original 1997 novel Sex and the City — should serve as a good fix.

It's Carrie's coming-of-age story and takes readers back to 1979 and her life as a high school senior in small-town Connecticut.

"I tried to capture the emotional realities of being 17," says Bushnell, 51, over the phone from New York, where she is kicking off a whirlwind book North America tour to launch this, her sixth novel. "I had an especially great time writing The Carrie Diaries because I love the character Carrie."

Not only does Diaries focus on Carrie's first love, but it also touches on her evolving sense of fashion and her dreams of one day becoming a writer.



The Carrie Diaries.

Like her character Carrie, Bushnell grew up dreaming of being a writer and living in Manhattan. "It was something that I dreamed of doing since I was a little kid," she says. "And, like Carrie, when I was in high school, I knew what I wanted to do, but I had no idea how to get there."

Similarly to Carrie, Bushnell moved to the Big Apple at 18, and became a columnist while struggling to pay the bills. As her 20s rolled into her 30s, Bushnell also became (like Carrie) a bona fide New York celebrity, dating a bevy of wealthy bachelors (including publishing giant Ronald A. Galotti who is rumoured to be the inspiration for Mr. Big).

Aside from her career-defining Sex and the City, Bushnell has penned several other smash-hit, chick-lit novels, including Four Blondes, Trading Up, Lipstick Jungle, which was also adapted into a TV series, and One Fifth Avenue.

So what has the women behind Carrie Bradshaw learned about love? "It's what you bring and it's your attitude," she says. "You always hear people say, 'oh, I have to find my other half,' but you kind of have to be a whole to begin with."

Bushnell is already working on a follow up to Diaries. "It's (Carrie's) first summer in New York and gosh, I think anybody's first summer in the big city is full of adventure," she said.

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Baby Gallagher
Noel Gallagher plans to call his baby Carlos, paying tribute to his sporting hero, Manchester City soccer player Carlos Tevez, when he becomes a father for the third time in September, femalefirst.co.uk reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

The edgy actress gets edgy in front of crowds

GETTY IMAGES

UM, YEAH. WOULDN'T YOU TOO? She's the heroine of the blockbuster Twilight franchise — and gets to make out with Robert Pattinson — but Kristen Stewart doesn't always put on a happy face at red carpet events and other appearances, usmagazine.com reports.

"People say I'm miserable all the time," Stewart, 20, says in the June issue of Elle magazine.

She explains, "It's not that I'm miserable. It's just that somebody's yelling at me ... I literally, sometimes, have to keep myself from crying," on the red carpet.

"It's a physical reaction to the energy that's thrown at you."

Then there's her demeanor on late night talk shows or awards fest.

"It's funny that when I go onstage to accept an award, they think I'm nervous, uncomfortable, and awkward," Stewart quips, "and I am — but those are bad words for them."

The edgy star also resents losing her privacy to worldwide fame.

"Somebody knocked on my hotel room door and asked for a light, then said that they were a big fan. I was like, 'Do you really need me to light your cigarette? How do you know what room I'm in?' I can't be by myself and I like being by myself."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bombshell is empathetic

WHEN IT COMES TO JESSE JAMES SLEEPING WITH DOGS. IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK. OK, MAYBE IT ACTUALLY IS Michelle "Bombshell" McGee, the other woman in the cheating scandal that led to the demise of Sandra Bullock and Jesse James' marriage, claims that Bullock is at least partially to blame for James having an affair.

"They slept with nine dogs in the bed," McGee told Howard Stern during his radio show.

"She liked to sleep with all the dogs in the bed. I feel bad for her, I do."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

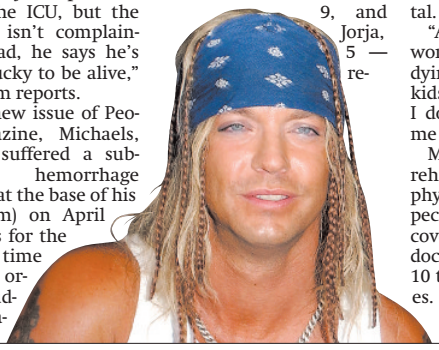
DEMI LOVATO is too tired to drive, **NEIL PATRICK HARRIS** is getting tipsy, **JIMMY KIMMEL** overestimates his own popularity, and **DIABLO CODY** is confused by candy. @ddlovato Today hasn't started off so great ... I was so sleepy this morning I got in my first little accident in my car. :(blahhh @ActuallyNPH I dare say my favorite alcoholic beverage is cold sake. Leaves me happy, buoyant, a little giggly. Drinking it now. Close second: Tequila. @jimmykimmel "Twitter is over capacity. Too many tweets!..." I can't believe it — I actually choked twitter to death. I murdered twitter. @diablocody I just ate a Ritter Sport. I'm an athlete!

METRO NEWS SERVICES

His brain was bleeding

BUT BRET IS BACK IN ACTION. LET'S JUST HOPE IT'S NOT TOO MUCH ACTION Bret Michaels may have just spent 10 days in the ICU, but the rock star isn't complaining. Instead, he says he's feeling "lucky to be alive," people.com reports.

In the new issue of People magazine, Michaels, 47, who suffered a subarachnoid hemorrhage (bleeding at the base of his brain stem) on April 21, speaks for the first time about his ordeal, including a dramatic moment when he first arrived at the hospital.



In the emergency room, the rocker — dad to Raine, 9, and Jorja, 5 — recalls being asked by a doctor if he had kids, and the doctor telling him to have them brought to the hospital.

"And I said in these exact words, 'Am I dying? If I'm dying, I want to see my kids, but if I have a chance, I don't want them to see me in this condition.'"

Michaels is currently at a rehabilitation facility for physical therapy, and is expected to make a full recovery — something his doctor says only occurs in 10 to 20 per cent of all cases.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's not all light and air

THERE'S ENVY AND EGO IN THERE, TOO Sources say the breakup between Halle Berry and Gabriel Aubry was anything but amicable, despite what the former couple says publicly, according to Us Weekly.

And on top of that, Berry reportedly harangued Aubry about his career for months before they split.

"Halle called him a loser," a source says.

"She'd rub it in his face that she's an Oscar-winning actress and he's just a model. He couldn't take it anymore."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Yep, it's back on

BUT NOT THAT ON Coy as ever, Jude Law may have dropped a hint to Access Hollywood that he's ready to propose to Sienna Miller again. When asked if they were engaged, Law said, "Not at the moment. Not at the moment. That's all I can say." The pair called off their initial engagement in 2006 after Law was caught cheating on Miller with his children's nanny. "I'm very happy. I'm very happy to be happy," Law said of the couple's reconciliation.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Tick tock goes Jessica's baby clock

TIME TO SPROG UP AGAIN Jessica Alba wants to be a mother again and thinks she "should do it soon," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress has one child, 23-month old daughter Honor Marie, with her husband Cash Warren, but is broody and wants them to expand their family — either by getting pregnant or adopting.

When asked if she was thinking of having more children, Jessica told Tatler magazine: "Of course! And I feel like I should do it soon ... You bring these kids into the world, so you might as well participate."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

He's still missing Reese's pieces

ONCE YOU HAVE A TASTE IT'S HARD TO PUT THE BAG DOWN Though they broke up months ago and she's moved on to a new boyfriend, Jake Gyllenhaal is reportedly still hung up on Reese Witherspoon, according to Popeater.

"Reese was without any doubt the love of Jake's life. He took the breakup hard and still isn't ready to move on yet," a source says. "As much as he would love to have remained friends and see her and her children, it was just too painful. They have little contact with each other, which is probably for the best."

METRO WORLD NEWS

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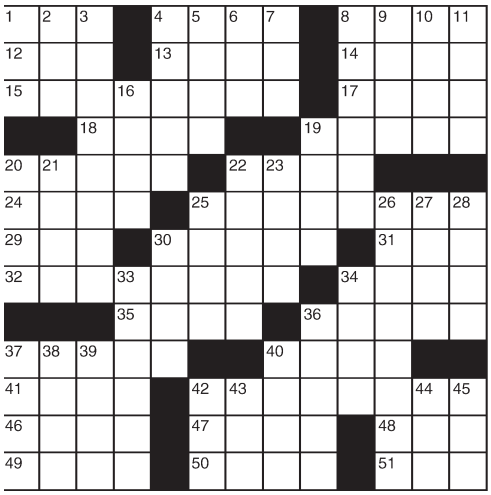

ACROSS

1 Corral
4 Competent
8 Fancy
12 Roth plan, e.g.
13 Transaction
14 Took the bus
15 Old-fashioned music player
17 Unsigned (Abbr.)
18 Above
19 Relinquish
20 Bound bundles
22 Accomplishment
24 Debtor's worry
25 Sailor, often
29 Commotion
30 Dunkable treats
31 Neither partner
32 Flyer
34 Old portico
35 "My bad"
36 Prompter's job
37 Star of westerns?
40 String
41 Spellbound
42 Wallet
46 Anger
47 Urban disturbance
48 Chemical element with the shortest name
49 Raised
50 Helps
51 Schedule abbr.

DOWN

1 Pendulum site
2 Geological period
3 Cream-filled oblong pastry
4 Threw in
5 Keg contents
6 Fond du —
7 Wapiti
8 Ghost
9 Sharpen
10 Pedestal occupant
11 Fix
16 Tied
19 Tibetan herd
20 Mediocre
21 Verdi opera
22 Senses
23 Greenpeace subj.
25 Faucet problem
26 Poison remedy
27Midday
28 RuPaul's costuming
30 Bassoon's cousin
33 Trailed relentlessly
34 Browse the Web
36 Indianapolis team
37 Zinger
38 Culture medium
39 Venetian magistrate
40 Oaf
42 Push-up provider?
43 Square root of IX
44 Illuminated
45 "CSI" evidence

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	7						6	
3				1				7
6			5		4			9
		5	7		6	4		
				3				
		2	1		9	3		
9			8		2			6
8				6				4
	1						5	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

9	3	5	4	1	7	2	8	6
8	1	4	3	6	2	5	9	7
7	2	6	9	5	8	3	4	1
4	6	7	2	9	3	8	1	5
2	8	1	7	4	5	6	3	9
3	5	9	6	8	1	4	7	2
1	9	8	5	3	6	7	2	4
5	7	3	1	2	4	9	6	8
6	4	2	8	7	9	1	5	3

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Jamaican Jerked Chicken Salad

INGREDIENTS:

4 scallions, thinly sliced
3 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 tsp dried thyme
1 tsp black pepper
1 tsp ground allspice
1 tsp salt
4 tbsp red wine vinegar
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 tsp dark brown sugar
1 lb skinless, boneless chicken breasts
1 tbsp olive oil
2 cups pineapple chunks
4 kiwis, peeled and cut into wedges
1 large red pepper, cut into matchsticks
1 cup jicama matchsticks

METHOD:

1. In large bowl, stir together garlic, thyme, black pepper, allspice, half of scallions and 1/2 tsp salt. Stir in 2 tbsp of vinegar, 1 tbsp mustard, and brown sugar. Add chicken, rubbing mixture into meat. Cover and set aside.

2. In separate bowl, whisk together remaining vinegar, mustard, 1/4 tsp salt and oil. Add remaining scallions, pineapple, kiwis, red pepper and jicama, and toss.

3. Preheat broiler. Broil chicken 15 cm from heat, 4 minutes per side, or until cooked through. When cool enough to handle, slice chicken on diagonal. Add to bowl and toss.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A positive attitude is a must. Forget about things that go wrong and focus on things that go right — there are still plenty of them.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
If you are in a loved one's bad books then it might be wise to make amends. A heartfelt apology will get you off the hook — this time.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Venus in your sign links with Mars in the area of your chart that governs travel and communications, so get out and about and meet new people today.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
This may be an important time for financial matters but you don't need to worry yourself sick about them. You'll find a way out of your dilemma.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
A more relaxed attitude to both personal and professional matters will pay dividends, even though you may not see much progress today.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You may look tough on the outside but you are a lot more sensitive than most people realize. Bu today you'll experience incredible highs. Enjoy it!

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Life is not a zero sum game: someone else does not have to lose every time you win. Don't feel bad that you have gained so much.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Your hunger for success is so strong that you won't let anything or anyone stand in your way. Use your charm and you'll soon be on your way to the top.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
If an idea you thought was a good one is not working out the way you expected just ditch it and try something else.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
So many of the things you have been worrying about bear no relation to reality. You have simply got into the habit of expecting certain things to go wrong.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
A relationship problem is nowhere near as serious as you have persuaded yourself that it is, and you can easily resolve it. So what are you waiting for?

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
It's good that you are pushing yourself beyond your usual limits but don't push yourself so far and so fast that you risk losing touch with reality.

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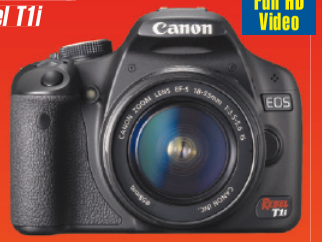

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